THE DEVOUT CHRISTIAN

Instructed how to

PRAY and give THANKS to GOD:

OR,

A Book of Devotions

FOR

FAMILIES:

AND FOR

Particular Persons

IN

Most of the concerns of Human Life.

By *SY. PATRICK*, D. D. Chaplain in Ordinary to His MAJESTY.

The Fourth Edition.

1 Thess. 5. 17. *Pray without ceasing.*
18. *In every thing give thanks.*

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THE AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

I Need not tell the well diſpoſed Reader, there being ſo much ſaid and writ continually in this argument, how natural and neceſſary it is for all rational Creatures, to look back upon all occaſions to the Author of their being; that they may make him their hearty acknowledgments for all the benefits they have received from him, and ſtill recommend themſelves and all their concerns, to his continued Grace and good Providence. Nor ſhall I go about to ſhew how much the publick Service of GOD in his own Houſe, is to be preferred before the private Devotion of Families at home: there being no reaſon, as far as I underſtand, to make the latter neceſſary, but only becauſe, in moſt places, Chriſtian people cannot meet together, at the Church every day, Morning and Evening, to give to GOD the glory that is due unto his Name.

My buſineſs is to deſire him to remember, how natural it is likewiſe to all mankind to take ſuch good advice before hand, when they

have any petitions or thanks to prefer unto earthly gods, that they may be delivered in a decent and grave form of words, as well as after a reverend manner: and to consider therefore, with what sober and prudent care all those expressions ought to be weighed, wherein they present the humble desires and grateful affections of their hearts, to the most High GOD, and eternal Majesty of Heaven and Earth.

It hath not proved I am sure an honour to Religion, that men have learnt to be less solicitous about the one, than they are about the other. But such have been the licentious rambles of their fancy in sudden Prayer, so bold and rude have their descriptions been of Almighty God, so rash their affirmations concerning him or concerning themselves, and so many untrue or doubtful things have they uttered; that it is sufficient, in my poor judgment, to blast the credit of that way of address to him, as it hath done, alas! with too many, the credit of Christian Piety, which hath suffered extreamly by such extravagance.

I know there are great numbers that will be ready to oppose me in this particular, with whom I list not to dispute in this short Preface. Let me only beseech them to use so much moderation, as not to discourage honest-hearted

People

People from performing their duty to GOD, by diſgracing any longer, as they have been wont to do, all Book-Prayers. Which if they have not the advantage (as I think they have) of ſudden conceptions and expreſſions, yet are ſo neceſſary in the Church, that without them many perſons cannot pray at all. And I hope they will confeſs, upon due deliberation, that though ſome few may have attained an habit of uttering their deſires freely, and becomingly upon any occaſion, yet as the uſe of it before others is too apt to miniſter to pride, vain-glory, and ſelf-conceit; ſo moſt People are ſo defective both in their conceptions and utterance, as not to be able to diſcharge this holy duty as they ought, without ſuch aſſiſtance as is here offered them.

How well I have performed what I have undertaken, I muſt leave to the judgment of others. I am ſure I have proceeded with deliberation; and ſtudied faithfully to avoid all affected expreſſions, fantaſtical alluſions, inſignificant allegories, pretended wit, and elegant converſions of ſentences, and raſh application of the holy Scripture to my preſent purpoſe: which have been the vices, perhaps, of ſome forms, though not ſo frequently, as well as of mens haſty inventions.

I have laboured alſo to gratifie the Read r

with ſome variety; not becauſe I think it is always beſt to uſe it, but becauſe ſome weak and ſqueamiſh appetites will not be ſatisfied without it. And beſides Prayers for Families, I have compoſed a great many other for particular perſons; wherein if I have failed in the clearneſs and perſpicuity of my expreſſions, it was much againſt my will: and being admoniſhed of it by my friends, I will reform it, or any thing elſe that is amiſs.

But the length, or the brevity of the Prayers ſure will not be accuſed, becauſe there are of both ſorts; that they who like not the one, may make uſe of the other.

Some, I doubt not, will complain that they find not a Prayer for ſome particular want of theirs, not here named; but that's a defect which could not be remedied. For I knew not where to ſtop, if I had extended my thoughts beyond thoſe neceſſities which are moſt common; and the reſt, I hope, may be reaſonably well ſupplied out of that which I have done to ſerve the other

It is poſſible alſo that ſome may judge this whole work to be but a needleſs labour: ſince they have the Book of Common Prayers *at hand which they can uſe at home as well as in the Church. With theſe perſons I ſhall not contend; but only deliver my opinion freely about this matter. Which is, that the reverence*

verence due to that book will be beſt preſerved, by employing it only in the publick Divine Service; or in the private, where there is a Prieſt to officiate. However the deſign of it is not to furniſh the People with Prayers, for all thoſe particular occaſions, wherein devout ſouls would make their requeſts to GOD. And the conſtant opinion of pious Divines, in this and in other Churches, we ſee, by their writings, hath been; that other Books of Prayers, which they have compoſed, are neceſſary for the flock of Chriſt, beſides their publick Liturgies.

That which remains is only to intreat thoſe who will make uſe of this Book which is here tendered to them; Firſt to ſtir up their hearts to offer their Praiſes, Thanksgiving and Prayers unto GOD our heavenly Father, with fervent devotion of ſpirit. And then, not to imagine the reading them out of a Book is any hinderance to Devotion; but rather a conſiderable help, and much better than truſting the memory even with a form. For a man's mind hath nothing to do, when he hath the words before his eyes; but wholly to intend it ſelf, to the raiſing of its affections unto the greateſt height and ardency of deſire, and love, and joy, that it is able.

But take heed, I beſeech you, in the laſt place; leſt the performance of theſe holy duties,

with some affection, deceive you into the neglect of all the rest. Our Prayers will be fruitless, if they be not attended with our serious study and earnest labour, to attain that which we beseech God to bestow upon us. And therefore with a sincere hatred of all sin, and a spirit armed with hearty resolution against it, invoke the Divine Grace for your assistance.

If you be true Christian Soldiers that manfully fight under the banner of our Lord, *call to him for aid, with your weapons in your hand. With a mind bent to consider, desire God to enlighten you. And with an heart stored with the treasures of Divine Truth, beseech him to quicken and enliven you. And with close and urgent applications of them to your heart, entreat him to enable you to form and shape your whole man, spirit soul and body, according to them. For God is not hard to be entreated, since he entreats us to come to him, yea gives a great deal of his grace without asking: but it is the faintness or inconstancy of our endeavours to comply with his grace, and with our own petitions, that makes them no more prevalent.*

They that had no other Director but the light of their own minds, saw this well enough, and were so sensible of this truth, that they were wont publickly to declaim (as we find in Aristides *his Oration to the* Rhodians *concerning*

erning a Record) *againſt the* abſurd folly of thoſe, who were perpetually importuning the Gods with their Prayers, but would do nothing for themſelves; no, not thoſe things which they knew the Gods had put in their power. ἄτοπον τὰς θεὰς ἐνοχλεῖν, &c.

And in the ſame manner Demoſthenes *in one of his* Philippicks, *chides the Greeks; comparing them to men,* who ſeeing great Hail-ſtones fall upon their heads, prayed that they might be preſerved in ſafety; but would not run away to ſecure themſelves from harm.

And therefore Clemens Alexandrinus *juſtly commends the wiſdom of thoſe, who made the Laws of the famous* Olympick *Combats: By which he that entred the Liſts, having for a long time before exerciſed his body to feats of activity, was enjoined, before he began to contend for the Prize, to ſtand right over againſt the Shrine of* Jupiter, *and to ſay this Prayer.* O GOD; if I am in all regards duly fitted and prepared, as I ought, for this Combate; vouchſafe in thy righteous Judgment, to grant the victory to me. *Even ſo, ſaith he, may a man chearfully approach to God, who,* faithfully and with a good conſcience, doth all that he can both to learn his will, and to exerciſe himſelf in good works, that are pleaſing to him: for he ſhall have all that can be wiſht for the perfecting of his Salvation. Juſt as a Phyſician (*as he goe on*) reſtores health to thoſe, who cooperate with his medicines: ſo will God give his eternal ſalvation to them who work together with him, both unto knowledge, and unto well doing. Lib. 7. Strom.

As for thoſe who do not live well, it is plain, ſaith he in another place, that they do not ſo much as know what things are moſt profitable for themſelves. Lib. 6. Strom.

And

And if ſo, then it is manifeſt likewiſe that they cannot tell how to pray to GOD *to receive ſuch things from him, being ignorant of what is good. Or if they ſhould receive them, they would have no ſence at all of them, nor uſe it according to its worth and dignity; and that for the very ſame reaſon becauſe they underſtand not its value.*

Inſpire therefore, O God of all Grace, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, both in my heart and the hearts of all others who ſhall read this book with ſuch a godly will, to endeavour zealouſly in all things to do what is well pleaſing in thy ſight: that we may comfortably expect the conſtant and powerful preſence of thy holy Spirit with us, to help us in the performance of our duty, till we have perfected holineſs in thy fear. And the ſincerity of that love to thee, which we profeſs in our Prayers, being teſtified by an unwearied obſervance of all thy commands; we may be able alſo to wait with an humble confidence for thy ſalvation: who haſt graciouſly promiſed to reward our weak and ſhort obedience in this life, with inconceivable and endleſs joys in a better World. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

On the LORD'S DAY. In the MORNING

ALmighty and Eternal God, the Lord of Heaven and Earth: we thy Creatures are here proſtrate before Thee, to expreſs our humble and grateful ſenſe of our dependence on thee; to honour thee with our Praiſes and Thankſgivings; and with an hearty oblation of our ſelves, our Souls and Bodies, to thy ſervice. We are unworthy, we confeſs, to be admitted to ſpeak unto thy Majeſty, nor can our thoughts or words add any thing to thy greatneſs, happineſs and glory: but ſince thou art pleaſed in thy infinite goodneſs to do us the honour, not only to admit, but to invite our addreſſes unto thee, that our ſpirits may be bettered by lifting up themſelves to thee from whom we come, by meditating thy praiſes, by exciting our love, and paying our acknowledgments to thee; we moſt humbly and thankfully receive this thy great grace and

favour towards us. Remembring withal, that it is but juſt and reaſonable we ſhould pay thee our vows which we made the laſt night, being ſo graciouſly raiſed up in ſoundneſs of body and mind, to ſee the light of this day; which our Saviour hath made that we may be glad and rejoyce therein.

We laud and magnifie therefore thy moſt holy Name, thy infinite Power, Wiſdom and Bounty; which all the world proclaims with the higheſt praiſes. We bleſs thee in behalf of all thy creatures, as well as of our ſelves (to whom thou haſt *given dominion over the works of thy hands*)

Pſal. 145. 15, 16. for *the eyes of all look unto thee, and thou giveſt them their meat in due ſeaſon. Thou openeſt thy hand, and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing.* But above all we acknowledge thy ineſtimable benefits beſtowed upon mankind in Chriſt Jeſus, the Son of thy Love whom thou waſt well pleaſed, in thy infinite mercy to ſend among us in our own likeneſs; to aſſure us of thy good will towards us, and to inſtruct us in our duty towards thee, and to give us hope of no leſs than immortal life, by patient continuance in well doing.

We remember with all thankfulneſs his miraculous Birth, at which the Angels rejoyced; his moſt holy Life; his bitter Agony, and bloudy Death; his glorious Reſurrection upon this day from the grave; his Aſcenſion into the heavens, to ſit on the right hand of the Majeſty on high; his Triumph over all the powers of darkneſs; and his Sovereign Dominion over all Angels, Authorities and

1 Pet. 3. *ult.* Powers, whom thou haſt made ſubject to him. O God, how great was thy love to the ſinful ſons of men! which moved thee to paſs by ſuch innumerable offences, whereby they had provoked thy ſevereſt diſpleaſure. How great

great was that love! which hath honoured our mortal nature with so high a glory; and committed the care of our immortal souls to one so mighty to save, and so full of kindness, and most tender charity towards us. O the greatness of thy love! which hath chosen us to be thy sons and heirs, together with Christ Jesus; and set such an high Priest over thy house and family, to make intercession for us, to dispense all divine blessings to us, and send forth Angels themselves to be *ministring spirits for them who shall be heirs of salvation.* Heb. 1. *ult.* Who can understand the exceeding riches of thy grace in sending the Holy Ghost to be a witness of our Saviours Resurrection and Exaltation; and to make us *abound in hope,* that we shall be one day raised from the dead, and carried to heaven, and keep a perpetual rest, after our short labours here, with our blessed Lord and Master, in his eternal glory? Rom. 15. 13.

O that we could begin it this day, in devout Meditations of these things, in unspeakable joy and satisfaction of heart in the assured hope and expectation of them, and in blessing and praising thee, who hast given us such good hope, and everlasting consolation. Lift up our minds, we pray thee, this morning, above all these little things here below, which are apt to distract our thoughts, and turn away our eyes from that heavenly bliss. And keep them above in the serious contemplation of it; till we be in love with it, and our hearts be fully bent and resolved to seek it every day in those ways wherein Jesus hath gone before us, though it should be with the loss of all that we here possess. It is but meet and fit that we should wholly quit our own will, and devote our selves to follow thine; especially since thou hast shown such unusual kindness towards

us, as, if we had been innocent, we durſt not have preſumed to expect from thee.

We are aſham'd, O Lord, to think that ever we have diſobeyed thee, to whom we ſtand ſo deeply indebted, both as we are thy creatures, and as we are redeemed by the precious blood of thy Son Jeſus. It grieves us, that we have tranſgreſſed any of thy righteous and good Laws, by which it is our happineſs as well as our duty to be govern'd. We abhor the thoughts of ever breaking them any more: beſeeching not only thy gracious pardon, but thy acceptance of our intire reſolution to agree with thy Will in all things, for the time to come. We here again moſt ſolemnly dedicate all the powers of our ſouls and bodies to thy ſervice: deſiring unfeignedly that all the thoughts and deſigns of our minds, all the affections and paſſions of our hearts, and all the actions of our life and converſation may be pure, holy and unreproveable in thy ſight.

For which end we moſt humbly implore the aſſiſtance of thy good ſpirit, which our Lord hath encouraged us to hope thou wilt give to thoſe, that ask and ſeek it with their whole heart. O let thy mercy be upon us according to thy word, according as our hope is in thee, and our hearts ſincerely and ſtedfaſtly ſet to keep thy Commandments. *Search us, O God, and know our hearts: try us, and know our thoughts. And ſee if there be any way of wickedneſs in us, and lead us in the way everlaſting.*

Pſal. 138. 23. 24.

Fill our minds with awful and reverend thoughts of Thee, as our Sovereign Lord and Judge. Settle in us an immutable love to Thee; and the higheſt eſteem of thy favour and grace, as better than life it ſelf. That ſo we may ſtudy above all things to approve our very hearts, and all our actions to thee; and feel the ſenſe of thy acceptance of us,

giving

giving us greater pleasure, than all the World can afford us.

Make it our delight to praise thee, to call to mind thy loving kindness, to offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to meditate on thy precious promises. Help us to *take heed to our selves, lest our hearts be at any time overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and the* inordinate *cares of this life*: *To have our conversation without covetousness, and to be content with such things as we have*: *To possess our bodies in sanctification and honour*: *To love our neighbours as our selves*; *And as we would that others should do to us, to do even so to them*: *To live peaceably, as much as in us lieth, with all men*: *To put on the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit*: *To take those who have spoken in the name of our Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience*: *and when we suffer as Christians, not to be ashamed, but to glorifie thee our God on this behalf.*

Luke 21. 34. Heb. 13. 5. 1 Thes. 4. 4. Rom. 13. 9. Matth. 7. 12. Rom 12. 18. 1 Pet. 3. 4. Jam. 5. 12. 1 Pet. 4. 16.

And accept, good Lord, of all the praises and acknowledgments of all thy People met this day together, according to thy will: and assist us to render thee still more hearty and affectionate praises, in that holy Assembly, to which we are going to joyn our selves. O that all people on the face of the earth were united together, likewise, in one body to shew forth thy praise. O that thy ways were known upon earth, thy saving health among all Nations. And that all Christian Kings especially, may be filled with thy holy Spirit; and think it their Crown and their Glory, to be the devout worshippers

pers and faithful ſubjects of the Lord Jeſus, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords.

Pſal. 132. 9. O *that thy Prieſts may be cloathed with righteouſneſs, and thy Saints ſhout aloud for joy.* That all who are in diſtreſs and miſery may rejoyce alſo, in hope that all afflictions ſhall turn to their good, and *after-*

Heb. 12. 11. *wards yield the peaceable fruit of righteouſneſs.* O Lord, hear us; and make thy face to ſhine upon thy Servants: that *we may enter into thy gates with thanksgiving, and into thy courts with praiſe: that we may be thankful unto thee, and bleſs thy Name. For the Lord is good;*

Pſal. 100. 4, 5. *his mercy is everlaſting: and his truth endureth to all generations:* Amen, Amen, for Jeſus Chiſt his ſake; in whoſe words we conclude our imperfect Prayers.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

O Lord moſt high; the Holy One, who inhabiteſt Eternity, who only haſt immortality, and art moſt bleſſed in thy own incomprehenſible perfections. Thou art to be feared and loved, to be worſhipped and praiſed, by us and all reaſonable creatures; who have any knowledge, how great, how mighty, how wiſe, and merciful thou art. All thy works praiſe thee, O Lord, and we more eſpecially ought to bleſs thee; whom thou haſt made to underſtand thy moſt adorable excellencies, which are far beyond the higheſt of all our thoughts. And we have yet a more particular obligation to thee, for thy marvellous love in Chriſt Jeſus, whom thou haſt

haſt ſent in great humility to viſit us, who are but duſt and aſhes; to make his abode among us; to teſtifie thy great love to us; to aſſure us of thy good will, notwithſtanding our many offences; and to make us *exceeding great and precious promiſes*, to invite us to approach thee, and to encourage our obedience to thee. We thank thee that he hath ſealed them with his bloud; and that thou haſt confirmed them by his Reſurrection, and Aſcenſion, and the coming of the Holy Ghoſt; and haſt alſo given us ſo many happy opportunities to acquaint our ſelves with the truth and purity of the Chriſtian Religion: which comforts us in this ſtate of mortallity and miſery, with the bleſſed hope of eternal life.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs for that great conſolation; and that thou haſt ſhown us the way to it by his doctrine and example; and aſſured us of the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit to enable us to follow after him to that glory which he poſſeſſes. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that we have felt it ſo often in our minds and hearts; inſpiring us with holy thoughts, exciting in us devout affections and godly reſolutions, filling us with Divine Joyes, and with comfortable expectations of the glory that ſhall be revealed. We thank thee, that thou haſt permitted us this day to attend upon thee, together with our Chriſtian Brethren, in the publick Duties of thy Worſhip and Service. And that there we have received any good inſtructions, any holy exhortations, and Chriſtian encouragements, to proceed and go forward in the courſe of well doing: and have begun in any meaſure that eternal reſt, which we wait for with all the faithful; when we ſhall praiſe, and thank, and love thee our heavenly Father better than we can do now, whilſt we are in theſe frail bodies, and abſent from the Lord.

We can do no leſs than offer up again our ſouls and bodies to thee, to be ordered and governed by thy bleſſed Will, and not our own: that ſo we may be every day more prepared for that happy ſtate, and draw nearer and nearer in the diſpoſition and temper of our ſpirits, to that immortal bleſſedneſs. It is our ſatisfaction, our ſecurity, the eaſe and joy of our hearts, to be under the conduct of thy unerring wiſdom; to follow thy counſels, and to be determined in all things by thy holy Will: who art ſo good, and haſt given us ſuch large demonſtrations of thy abundant kindneſs and good will to us, as will not let us diſtruſt thy tender care of us; whatſoever it is thou wouldeſt have us do or ſuffer in this world.

O God, purifie our minds and thoughts more perfectly, that we may never conceive amiſs of thee; but have right apprehenſions in all things: and purifie all our paſſions and affections likewiſe, that we may entirely love thee; and rejoyce in being beloved of thee; and humbly confide in thee, and abſolutely reſign our ſelves to thee, and be filled with conſtant devotion towards thee, our Almighty Creator, and moſt merciful Redeemer. Poſſeſs our hearts with ſuch a lively ſenſe of our relation to thee in both reſpects, and of the honour thou haſt done us in preferring us ſo much above the reſt of our fellow creatures; that we may ever behave our ſelves ſuitably to the dignity of our Nature, and of our Religion.

O that we may never degenerate into a baſe and unworthy love of any thing here below: nor be oppreſſed with the burden of the cares of this life: nor ſink under the weight of any affliction, nor be vainly puffed up with the greateſt fulneſs of earthly goods, if thou art pleaſed to beſtow them on us. But aſſiſt us with thy grace, to *abhor that which*

which is evil, and cleave to that which is good. Diſpoſe us to a diſcreet and temperate uſe of all the pleaſures of this world. Endue us with true modeſty and humility of ſpirit, that we may *not think of our ſelves more highly than we ought to think; but think ſoberly, according to the meaſure which thou haſt dealt unto us.* Keep us from being *wiſe in our own conceits*: and enable us ſo to order our ſelves, that *our moderation may be known to all men.* Make us *kindly affectioned one to another in brotherly love*: To delight in doing good; *to ſhew all meekneſs to all men: To render to all their dues: Tribute to whom Tribute is due, cuſtom to whom cuſtom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour: and to owe no man any thing, but to love one another.* Make us ſo happy, that we may be able to *love our enemies, to bleſs thoſe that curſe us, to do good to them that hate us, to rejoyce with them that do rejoyce, and weep with them that weep.* Compoſe our ſpirits to a quiet and ſteady dependence on thy good providence; that we may not *take* too much *thought for our life, nor be careful for any thing: but by prayer and ſupplication with thanksgiving, ſtill make known our requeſts to thee our God.* And help us *to pray alway, and not faint: In every thing to give thanks, and offer up the ſacrifice of praiſe continually: To paſs the time of our ſojourning here in fear: to believe thoſe things which we do not ſee, and to rejoyce*

Rom. 12. 9.
Rom. 12. 3, 10, 16.
Phil. 4. 5.
Tit. 3. 2.
Rom. 13. 7, 8.
Matth. 5. 44.
Rom. 12. 15.
Matth. 6. 25.
Phil. 4. 6.
Luke 18. 1.
1 Theſſ. 5. 18.
Heb. 13. 15.
1 Pet. 1. 17.
Rom. 5. 2.

in hope of thy Glory: To poſſeſs
Luke 21. 19. *our Souls in patience: And to learn*
Phil. 4. 11, 12. *in whatſoever ſtate we are, therewith to be content:* Make us *know both how to be abaſed, and how to abound: every where, and in all things inſtruct us, both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to ſuffer need: being enabled to do all things through Chriſt which ſtrengtheneth us.* That we feeling the joys of uprightneſs and integrity of heart; our Religion may be the greateſt comfort and pleaſure to us, and we our ſelves an Ornament to our Religion.

O that we could alway by an innocent, good and uſeful life, commend the Doctrine of God, our Saviour, to thoſe who converſe with us: And that the light of all Chriſtians did ſo ſhine before men, that others beholding their good works, might be moved to glorifie thee, and heartily to believe on the Lord Jeſus. Send forth thy Light and thy Truth into all the dark corners of the Earth: That *all*
Pſal. 72. 11, 12, 13, 14. *Kings may fall down before him, and all Nations ſerve him.* And endue them whom thou haſt placed in ſuch high Authority over others with that divine Spirit which was in him: that they may *deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor alſo, and him that hath no helper. That they may ſpare the poor and needy, and ſave and redeem their ſoul from deceit and violence: and their bloud may be precious in their ſight.*

Bleſs theſe Kingdoms wherein we live; and as thou haſt long continued to us the knowledge of thy Truth: ſo give us grace to bring forth fruit becoming the Goſpel; that thou mayeſt not cut us down as barren trees, which cumber the ground. Lord ſave the King, and eſtabliſh his Throne in righteouſneſs, that we may ſee many happy days under his

Govern-

Government: and be *comforted now after the time that thou haſt plagued us; and for the years wherein we have ſuffered adverſity.* Pſal. 90. 15. Proſper the pious endeavours of all thoſe, that faithfully feed and inſtruct thy People; and increaſe the number of them. O that the Seed which hath been ſown this Day, may take deep root in all our hearts, and bring forth fruit abundantly: that being not *forgetful hearers, but doers of the work, we may be all bleſſed in our deed.* Jam. 1. 25, 26. Help us in all the week following, to *ſet a watch before our Mouth; and to keep the door of our lips.* Pſal. 141. 3, 4. Preſerve us that our *hearts incline not to any evil thing, to practiſe wicked works, with men that work iniquity:* but we may be always *followers of that which is good; and as we have received how we ought to walk and pleaſe thee our God, ſo we may abound more and more.* 1 Pet. 3. 13. 1 Theſ. 4. 1.

Protect us, we beſeech thee, and all our friends every where, this night. Grant us quiet and undiſturbed reſt and ſleep: and awaken in the morning theſe good thoughts and deſires again in our hearts; *that the words of our Saviour may abide in us, and we in him;* John 15. 7. till we come to endleſs life together with him; by whom we are encouraged thus to addreſs our ſelves unto thee, and to continue to pray, as he hath taught us in his holy Goſpel, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

A ſhorter form of Prayer for the Lords day *Morning.*

O Moſt holy and eternally bleſſed. *The heaven, and the heaven of heavens is thine, the earth alſo with all that therein is.* Thou art every where, and canſt not be excluded from any place: but art preſent to the greateſt ſecrets of our ſouls, and ſeeſt the cloſeſt and moſt retired thoughts of our hearts. Thou knoweſt very well with what deſigns and affections we now bow our ſelves before thee, and canſt not be deceived by any words that we are able to ſpeak in thy praiſe, whilſt our hearts are far from thy fear and love.

Deut. 10. 14.

Behold, O Lord, our hearts are full with deſires to be poſſeſſed with a mighty reverend ſenſe of thee, and of all the benefits thou haſt beſtowed on us: and to be lifted up to Heaven in love to thee, and joy in thee, whilſt we bleſs and praiſe thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name. We here remember with all humility and thankfulneſs that thou art our Creator, and acknowledge thy care and providence over thy ancient people in bleſſing and ſanctifying a day, wherein thou thy ſelf reſtedſt from thy works, that they might ceaſe from all other employments; and admire thy wonderful works, extol thy power, bleſs thy goodneſs, and be aſtoniſhed at thy wiſdom, in making, preſerving, adorning and governing this excellent frame of the world. *The heavens declare thy glory, O God, and the firmament ſheweth thy handy-work.* The Sun, the Moon, and all the hoſt of Heaven proclaim the greatneſs and ſplendour of thy Majeſty. The *whole earth is full of thy rich goodneſs: ſo is the great and wide ſea, wherein are things*

Pſal. 104. 24.

things moving innumerable, both ſmall and great living creatures. There is nothing but what ſpeaks of thee; and above all, the Children of men, whom thou haſt wonderfully made, and curiouſly wrought, and impreſſed with thy own Image; that they might underſtand thee, and love thee, in all and above all things.

The variety, the order, the ſtedfaſtneſs of all thy works in this great world, abundantly utter thy adorable perfections. But thou, O Lord, by thy goodneſs in giving thy Son for us, and then raiſing him up from the dead, and ſetting him at thy right hand, haſt given us new matter of wonder and praiſe; and conſecrated a better reſt and holy day of rejoycing: wherein we ſhould behold the glories of another world, and have before our eyes the happineſs thou intendeſt for us there, together with all the excellent means which lead unto it. Thou giveſt us occaſion not only to reflect upon all the good things thou haſt provided for our bodies; (which we can never acknowledge enough; the very health and eaſe of one Day deſerving the thankfulneſs of many) but we muſt alſo remember, that we are thy redeemed ones, and that thou haſt done great things for our ſouls in thy Son Jeſus, who is entred into the heavens for us, and gone to prepare a reſting place for all thoſe that follow him. This exceeding riches of thy grace infinitely ſurpaſſes all our acknowledgments; ſince all the praiſes we are able to render thee, are leſs than is due for thy temporal bleſſings.

To this love we owe the knowledge of thee, the true and only God; our freedom from Idolatry, and a vain converſation; the true Principles of holy living; the benefit of repentance; the promiſe of a pardon; the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit; the miniſtry of thy Angels; the hope of immortal life;

and

and the pledges our Lord hath left us of his endleſs love. To this we owe thy forbearance in the days of our ignorance; thy unwearied patience towards us in a continued rebellion; and thy earneſt intreaties of us, when we were paſſionately bent upon our own deſtruction. Thou haſt ſent us, in much love, many holy Inſtructors and Guides to bleſſedneſs. We have had the benefit of ſundry pious Sermons, good Examples, wholſome admonitions, and ſerious counſels, of the power of the Holy Ghoſt, and divers reſtraints of fear, and ſhame, and love, and thou ſtill purſueſt us with thy merciful kindneſs, and beſeecheſt us to attend to thy gracious invitations, and receive thy bleſſings, and make thee our choice, and be eternally happy in thy Divine favour and likeneſs. What ſhall we render to the Lord for all his benefits towards us?

O help us to manifeſt our real and unfeigned deſires to make ſome worthy returns to thee, by our careful improvement of the holy opportunity which thou this Day putteſt into our hands: O that our minds may be more enlightened to underſtand the truth, as it is in Jeſus; that our wills may be more ſtedfaſtly reſolved to cleave unto it; that our affections may be excited to a ſtronger and more ardent love to thee; and to a greater delight in thee; and all the powers of our ſouls diſpoſed to ſerve thee at all other times, more cheerfully and readily, in all the Duties of Piety, Soberneſs, Righteouſneſs and Mercy. So that every Day may become an holy reſt to the Lord, by ceaſing to do evil, and conſtantly doing well: and we may glorifie thee throughout our whole life; in all our actions *ſhewing forth thy praiſes, who haſt called us out of darkneſs into thy marvellous light.* And enlighten, Good Lord, the whole World with the beams of thy

1 Pet. 2. 9.

thy glorious Goſpel. And diſpoſe the hearts of all Chriſtian people, among whom the Sun of Righteouſneſs hath ſhone ſo long, to walk as Children of the Light: That ſo they may offer unto thee this day moſt acceptable Sacrifices, for themſelves and for all mankind: and be fitted and prepared by ſerving thee in righteouſneſs and true holineſs here, to ſhine for ever, in his heavenly Kingdom, with Chriſt Jeſus our Saviour. By whom thou haſt given us a good hope in Thee, that thou wilt hear our Prayers, and do for us above all that we can ask or think; which we humbly beg in thoſe holy words, which he hath taught us, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

Another at Night.

O Moſt bleſſed for evermore; the Father of Mercies, and the God of all Comfort. *How precious are thy thoughts to us-ward? how great is the ſum of them?* Thou reneweſt thy favours continually, and art ſtill pouring upon us innumerable benefits; of which, this is not the leaſt, that thou giveſt us leave to come into thy preſence, to call thee Father, and to make known our requeſts to thee, by prayer and ſupplication with thankſgiving. We accept, O Lord, with all thankfulneſs this thy great grace and loving kindneſs to us: and are here again proſtrate before thee this Evening, to acknowledge thy goodneſs in making us ſuch excellent Creatures; capable to know thee, and acknowledge thee, and love thee, and by being made like thee, to be eternally happy with thee.

Bleſſed be thy name, that we are now alive; and that we have lived ſo long in health, and ſtrength, and

and peace, and plenty of all good things: whereas our eyes might have been consumed with grief, our bones sore vexed, and we might have mingled our drink with continual weeping. We are bound unto thee for the free use of our understandings; for the good inclinations we find in our will; for any devout affections which are stirring in our hearts; for all the advantages we have had by our education, good company, and holy examples: And more especially for the illuminations of the Holy Ghost by thy blessed Gospel; the breathings of it frequently into our spirits; the importunities thou hast used to draw us to thee; and the great and precious promises whereby thy love in Christ Jesus constrains us to resign our selves entirely to the obedience of thy Precepts.

We ought likewise to admire and praise thee, for thy goodness to all thy creatures, who live daily upon thy bountious allowance. *The eyes of all wait on thee, and thou givest them their food in due season.* Psal. 145. Thou diffusest thy blessings in several streams to every one of them, according to their needs. *That thou givest them, they gather: thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good.* Psal. 104. 28. We give thee the glory of thy plentiful provision thou hast made for them: and more particularly admire thy great liberality to the Children of men; under whose feet thou hast put in subjection, *all Sheep and Oxen, yea, and the Beasts of the Field, the Fowl of the Air, and the Fish of the Sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the Waters.* O Lord, we praise thee for thy goodness to those who praise thee not themselves. Be thou adored and acknowledged in thy bounty, which bestows so many blessings unasked and unsought; and continues them notwithstanding abundance

dance of provocations, and moſt high offences that they have given to thy merciful kindneſs.

And let thy goodneſs to thy Church be never forgotten by us, which thou haſt in all Ages protected and defended: in a marvellous manner propagating the Goſpel of our Saviour, confounding its oppoſers, and ſpreading it by the power of the Holy Ghoſt over the face of the Earth. We thank thee for thy ſingular favour to theſe Countries wherein we live. To whom theſe glad tydings of Salvation have reached; and who have long enjoyed a more glorious light than many other places; and been delivered from the darkneſs of Popiſh Superſtition, and from ſundry attempts that have been made to bereave us of this happineſs; and are again ſetled after many confuſions in a peaceable enjoyment of thy true Religion: which thou haſt alſo continued to us, though we have not brought forth fruit worthy of the Goſpel of thy Grace.

O that all thy undeſerved goodneſs may have this effect upon us; to make us heartily love thee, and devoutly worſhip thee, and zealouſly obey thee, and ſtedfaſtly truſt and hope in thee for ever. That by a careful improvement of *the knowledge of thee our God, and our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom thou haſt given us all things that pertain unto life and godlineſs*; we may ſtill enjoy this ineſtimable treaſure, and all thy love to us may at laſt be finiſhed in thoſe eternal joys, which he hath promiſed to the faithful. And as we have been taught, exhorted and encouraged this day out of thy holy word; and have likewiſe publickly acknowledged our obligations to thee, and made profeſſion of love, and gratitude, and dutifulneſs to thy Divine Majeſty: So help us all the week following openly to teſtifie the truth and honeſty of our hearts, in all this, by a blameleſs converſation; in all humility, meekneſs, temperance, righteouſneſs,

righteousnes, charity and peace, *with all them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

Bless our Sovereign, the Defender of the Faith we profess, and all employed under him, in their several offices: that they may be instruments of continuing to us these holy opportunities; with all other good things that may make these Kingdoms happy. O that all our friends may be thine; and if we have any enemies, Father, forgive them. Comfort and support the sick, the needy, and all other distressed persons, with an immoveable belief of thy wise and good providence; to which give them grace patiently and obediently to resign themselves. And when all our senses this night shall be bound up with sleep, be thou, O Lord, our keeper: and after the refreshment of that repose, and this holy rest from our labours, raise us in the morning to return unto them with cheerful minds, and ready wills; praising still and magnifying thy multiplied mercies to us in Christ Jesus, by whom we present our selves and petitions to thee: saying further, as he hath taught us.

Our Father, &c.

Another for the Afternoon, or any other time of that day.

O Most Holy, Glorious and Blessed. Thy Name is excellent in all the Earth; and thou art for ever praised by all the Host of Heaven, who are never weary of thy service. We thy creatures, sinful dust and ashes, have many times professed it is our happiness to joyn with those Heavenly Inhabitants in admiring, worshipping, blessing and loving thee, the great Lord of all; with pure

pure hearts, in unity of Spirit, ſincere friendſhip, and brotherly accord one with another. We have often ſpoken great things of thee; and declared thy ſervice to be the ſweeteſt pleaſure, and one Hour ſpent in holy Meditations, devout affections, and chearful thankſgivings, to be far better than all the time we ſpend in other employments.

How much then, if we mean ſincerely, and according to our words, ſhould our hearts rejoyce that we may ſpend a Day in thy Courts, and are invited to a longer attendance on thy divine Majeſty, in the duties of thy worſhip and ſervice. We are aſhamed that any wearineſs ſhould ſeize on our ſpirits; and that it ſhould be irkſome to us, to renew our thoughts and acknowledgments of thy infinite goodneſs. Behold, O Lord, we are reſolved again to addreſs our ſelves unto thee with praiſe and thankſgiving, for granting us ſuch happy opportunities to look back to thee, the Author of our being; to lift up our Souls towards our Heavenly Country; and unite them to the firſt and chiefeſt good; from whence we derive whatſoever we have, or hope to enjoy. Beſeeching thee to help us to draw near unto thee, with hearts full of wonder at thy incomprehenſible Majeſty; full of love to thy moſt wiſe and Almighty goodneſs; full of thankfulneſs for thy benefits; full of deſires to be what thou wouldſt have us; and full of joy that thou wouldſt have us be ſo happy, in being made thy children, partakers of a Divine Nature, and heirs of immortal life.

We admire thy Glory, O great Lord of Heaven and Earth, which ſhines in the whole Creation; thy greater glory in the work of our redemption, by the miraculous Birth, Life, Death, and Reſurrection of Chriſt Jeſus; and the greateſt of all, which we hope and wait for at his appearing, when

he

he *shall come to be admired in his Saints, and glorified in all them that believe.* Thou hast done great things for us already, thou hast promised to do greater, and thou art Daily performing thy promises, and preparing us for the accomplishment of them all, in the highest blessedness.

O God of all grace, make us wiser Stewards, than we have been, of thy manifold gifts and graces, which we are intrusted withal. Help us carefully to husband this sacred opportunity which thou continuest to us, to the best advantage of our immortal Souls. Gather in our thoughts from our ordinary business. Fix them on thy self; and hold them in the contemplation of thy infinite mercies, and of those Divine Truths which represent our Duty, and thy exceeding love and kindness towards us. Chase away all worldly affections, and overawe our spirits with a sense of thy Divine Presence; that by serving thee with a religious reverence this Day, we may be disposed to walk in thy fear all the rest of our lives: Having a grateful remembrance of thy benefits; a deep and serious reflection upon our own resolutions, and thy gracious promises; an holy jealousie over our selves, lest we should be unfaithful to them; and a pious care in all things to approve our selves the constant and diligent servants of the Lord Jesus.

O that our thankfulness, and good affections, and zealous desires, may not end with our prayers, nor conclude with this Day: But we may be possessed with such a strong and habitual sense of thee, and of our obligations to thee; that we may every day earnestly and heartily serve thee in all the actions of Christian piety, and be unwearied in well doing unto the conclusion of our lives. Grant this, O heavenly Father, with all other things, which thou judgest necessary for us, or for thy whole Church; whose

whoſe ſervices this day we humbly beſeech thee, may be acceptable to thee, through the merits and interceſſion of Chriſt Jeſus, our moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour. To whom, with thee, and the Holy Ghoſt, be rendred, as is moſt due, all Honour, Thankſgiving and Praiſe, with the moſt affectionate and faithful Obedience, both now and for evermore, *Amen.*

Another.

O Moſt holy, great and glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth. To whom all the bleſſed Company above, do with the higheſt admiration, and love, give continual praiſe, and thanks, and honour, and worſhip, and obedience; acknowledging thou art above all that they are able to ſpeak of thee, or aſcribe and render to thee. Much more art thou exalted above the thoughts of ſuch poor mortals as we, who are cloathed with fleſh, and live far remote from the throne of thy glory. And yet, ſuch is thy goodneſs, thou condeſcendeſt to admit, nay, to draw us to a fellowſhip with thoſe holy ſpirits; that we may thereby be made happy, and called thy ſervants, though, when we have done the beſt we can, very unprofitable.

What is man that thou art mindful of him? what are the Sons of men that thou doſt at all conſider them? thou haſt crowned us with glory and honour here below, and raiſed us to a Dominion over the works of thy hands. Thou haſt endued us with underſtandings to know thee, and with wills to love thee; whoſe moſt excellent Wiſdom, Almighty Power, and ſurpaſſing Goodneſs, we diſcover in all thy works of wonder.

But

But what is ſinful man, that thou ſhouldeſt
much regard him, as to ſend after him, to ſeek a
ſave him, when he was loſt? Lord! what gra
was this, that thou ſhouldeſt vouchſafe to ſpe
with us, and communicate any thing of thy mind
ſuch forgetful and ungrateful wretches?

But that thou ſhouldeſt ſpeak to us by thy So
and declare thy mind in ſuch words of grace a
favour, and publiſh ſuch kind intentions towards u
and recover us with ſo much coſt, and purchaſe us
thy ſelf with the precious bloud of thy Son Jeſu
and ſend thy holy Spirit to purifie us; that
might have thy Image renewed in us, and be ma
fit ſociety for thy ſelf again, and reſtored to immo
tal life: Lord! how much doth it exceed all belie
hadſt thou not given us, in tender mercy, ſuch
bundant aſſurance of it?

We have thoſe reaſons to bleſs thee, which t
Angels have not. We muſt admire thee, not on
as the great Creator and Preſerver of all thing
which we heartily do, and give thee the glory of
thy marvellous works: but alſo as the Redeemer
Mankind out of a forlorn condition, by the mani
feſtation of thy ſelf in our fleſh, by the bloud of t
Son, the conſtant breathings of the Holy Ghoſ
the light of thy Goſpel, and an unwearied patience
which hath waited on us, and propounded to us n
leſs happineſs, than to ſit together in heaven
places in Chriſt Jeſus; who is advanced far abo
all principallities and powers, and every name th
is named, not only in this world, but in that alſ
which is to come.

We praiſe thee, O God; we magnifie thy mo
holy Name; we confeſs our ſelves bound to thee
above all other Creatures, that we have any know-
ledge of: for we are twice thy Creatures, and thou
haſt a double title to all we have. O ſtir up all that is
within

within us to bleſs thee, and love thee, and offer up the ſacrifice of thankſgiving to thee. Fill our hearts with joy and gladneſs, that we have another opportunity, wherein to recount thy mercies to us; to be further inſtructed in thy mind and will declared by our Saviour; and to be under the comfortable influences of Heaven, to cheriſh thoſe holy thoughts, affections, and reſolutions which are begun in us, and to promote our growth and encreaſe in all wiſdom, goodneſs and vertue.

Poſſeſs us with ſuch a ſtrong ſenſe of thy continued love towards us; that we may teſtifie our true and hearty thankfulneſs for it, by attentive conſideration of all that we hear out of thy Holy Word; and by laying it up in our hearts; and eſteeming it more than the greateſt Treaſures of this World; and endeavouring every Day to have our converſation as becometh the Goſpel of Chriſt. That ſo our praiſes being not meerly words, but real deeds, and all the fruits of Righteouſneſs; we may be bleſſed in our deed, and at laſt hear our Lord ſpeaking to us in thoſe gracious words, *Come ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the World.* And let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers and thankful acknowledgments of thy whole Church. Which we beſeech thee *to defend and cleanſe; and becauſe it cannot continue in ſafety without thee, preſerve it evermore by thy help and goodneſs.* The whole body of it is governed and ſanctified by thy Spirit, whoſe Heavenly Grace we implore for all eſtates of men in thy Holy Church; *that every Member of the ſame in his Vocation and Miniſtry, may truly and godlily ſerve thee, through our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Who was content to dye for us; and is raiſed from the dead, and now lives for evermore, to make interceſſion for us; to whom with thee, O Father

of

of Mercies, and thy Holy Spirit, be eternal Praise *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Morning, when there is a Communion.

O Most holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty the Father of mercies, the God of pea and comfort, by whose power we, and all thin else, were created, and by whose good providen we are all preserved and maintained. Be thou ete nally blessed and praised, worshipped and serve with the most ardent love, who hast made mankin so like to thy self, and ordered so many of thy cre tures to serve us, and chosen rather to make us new, and *create us* again *in Christ Je*

Ephes. 2. 10. *sus unto good works*, than let us undone by our shameful disobe ence to thee. For thou *hast s*

John 3. 16. *thy only begotten Son into the world* (dored be thy inconceivable love) *th whosoever believeth in him might not perish, but ha everlasting life.* And he hath laid down his life that end, and redeemed us by his blood from t hands of our enemies; and triumphed over them most gloriously; and in token thereof ascended in Heaven; and possessed the Crown of Immortal Li and sate down at thy right hand, and obtained d minion over Angels, and Men, and all Creatures.

We have felt the blessed fruits of his Death, a Resurrection, and Royal Power, whereby *he is ble to save to the uttermost all th*

Heb. 7. 25. *that come to thee by him.* Thy h Spirit hath breathed often into o hearts: we have been instructed in the Gospel thy grace: and thy Servants, the Ministers of t

Wor

Word, have not ceaſed to call upon us, yea, to importune us to follow after our Saviour, to that heavenly bliſs in which he lives. And now again thou vouchſafeſt to us an happy opportunity to improve our ſelves in Chriſtian Wiſdom, Devotion, and Holineſs; and we have received thy kind invitations to the neareſt approaches to thy Divine Majeſty.

O fill us, we pray thee, with a lively and ſtrong ſenſe of thy bounteous goodneſs, which hath been ſo many ways expreſſed towards us. Fill us with pious diſpoſitions to receive more of it, according to thy precious promiſes in Chriſt Jeſus. Stir up in us ſuch thankful acknowledgments to Thee, ſuch hearty reſolutions to obey Thee, ſuch earneſt deſires and longings to partake more and more of thy Divine Nature, ſuch love, delight, and joy in well doing; that our ſouls may be lifted up above, to that glorious place where our dear Saviour is; and we may comfortably expect, and be truly prepared for, a bleſſed tranſlation thither at the great Day of his appearing.

Our great unfruitfulneſs, we confeſs, in the knowledge of Chriſt, may juſtly make thee deny thy gracious influences from Heaven upon us. But, O God of all grace, who multiplieſt mercy, and delighteſt in doing good, pardon us, and make us better, by the bloud of thy Son interceding for us, and the power of thy Spirit working in us. Quicken our Souls to hear thy Holy Word with greater fear and reverence; to ſing thy praiſes with greater chearfulneſs and gladneſs; to pray to thee with more earneſt affection and ſteadineſs of mind; to approach to thy holy Table with the deepeſt humility and devotion of ſpirit; and to receive the renewed pledges of thy love, to our very great encreaſe in Faith, and Hope, and Love to Thee, and to all the World: that ſo this may be a good Day to our

Souls, and we may be disposed and enabled to spend the rest of our Days better, as becomes the redeemed of the Lord, who have tasted how gracious he is, and who have received the earnest of Eternal Life. O that our conversation may be in Heaven, by the constant love and exercise of purity, righteousness, mercy and godliness: That we ever studying to glorifie thee, our heavenly Father, by bearing much of this good fruit, may have the more assured hope that thou wilt glorifie us with thy self.

And inspire, we beseech thee, the hearts of all others that meet together this day, to magnifie thy great and glorious Name, with the like religious affections towards thee. *Kings*

Psal. 148. 11. *the earth, and all people; Princes*
12. *and all Judges of the earth: Both*
young men and maidens, old men and
Children; let them praise the Name of the Lord; for
his Name alone is excellent, his Glory is above the
earth and heaven. Let them offer
Psal. 107. 22. *to him the Sacrifice of thanksgiving,*
and declare his works with rejoycing.
Rom. 12. 1. *Let them present themselves a living*
sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto him,
which is our reasonable service.

Teach us all, O *God, the way of thy Statutes,*
and enable us *to keep it unto the*
Psal. 119. 35. *end.* Dispose our hearts to such a
love of all Christian Vertues that
we may *put on (as thy elect children,*
Colos. 3. 10, *holy and beloved) bowels of mercies,*
11, &c. *kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness,*
long-suffering; forbearing one another,
and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel
against any; even as Christ forgave us, so
us also to do. And above all these things to put on
charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And

the peace of thee our God rule in our hearts, to which we are called in one body; and make us ever truly thankful. Hear us, we beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father; and after we have perfected holineſs here in thy fear, bring us all to complete our praiſes and thankſgivings to thee, in the great Aſſembly of Saints and Angels, through Chriſt Jeſus our bleſſed Lord and Saviour: *To whom be glory both now and for ever.* Amen. 2 Pet. 3. *ult.*

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer at Night when there hath been a Communion.

O Eternally bleſſed Lord God; the Creator of the World, the Father of Angels and Men, the King of infinite Majeſty and Power, who canſt do what thou pleaſeſt every where. *The heaven, and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee*; who art enthroned only in thy own greatneſs, and crowned with the glory of thy own uncommunicated perfections. There is nothing can be added to thee by us or any other creatures; of whoſe ſervices thou haſt no need, ſeeing thou art abſolutely happy in thy ſelf, *and giveſt to all life, and breath, and all things.* But it is our perfection and happineſs to admire and praiſe thee, whom we cannot comprehend; to love thee as much as we know thee; and to obey thee as much as we love thee, *with a perfect heart, and with a willing mind; for the Lord ſearcheth all hearts, and underſtandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts.* 2 Chron. 6. 18. Acts. 17. 25. 1 Chron. 28. 9.

We praiſe thee therefore, O God, we acknow
ledge thee to be the Lord. We give thee the glo
ry that is due unto thy name: and with hearty lo
offer up our ſelves again entirely unto thee, who
we are, and for whom we were made. Juſtice an
gratitude, fear and love, hope and intereſt, wha
ſoever hath any power to move our hearts, do a
preſs, and mightly urge us conſtantly to devote an
conſecrate our ſouls and bodies to thy faithful ſervic
We cannot neglect thee, unleſs we will caſt awa
our ſelves; nor ſin againſt thee, unleſs we will
our own accuſers, judges, and tormentors, a
throw our ſelves into the greateſt miſeries. Tho
haſt been ſo good to us, that if we ſhould not b
come good likewiſe, we muſt hate and abhor o
ſelves; who cannot but love and delight in tho
who ſhow us any kindneſs, and beſtow any benef
upon us: though they are but thy Miniſters a
Servants, that have nothing, and can do nothin
but what thou haſt given them, and inclineſt th
to do.

By thee we were formed and brought out of o
Mothers Womb; and by a greater mercy were e
ly born again, and made thy children in Chriſt J
ſus. We have been thy care ever ſince; and be
inſtructed in that Covenant of Grace (into whi
at our Baptiſm we were received) by the knowled
thou haſt given us of thy bleſſed Goſpel. Wher
we read the great love of our Saviour in dying f
us; and have the promiſe of his Spirit to ſancti
and govern us; his holy Precepts for the rule
our actions; his glorious example to excite a
quicken us; and the hope of eternal bliſs, by his R
ſurrection from the dead, to encourage and comf
us in well doing. And in the mean time we enj
the ſociety of thy Saints; the Miniſtry of thy A
gels; and the direction and aſſiſtance of thy faithf

Se

Servants, thy Ambaſſadors of peace and reconciliation with thee.

All which fruits of thy wonderful love we have long enjoyed; and thou haſt this day entertained us at thy Table, where thou haſt refreſhed us with the Communion of the body and bloud of Chriſt Jeſus; the earneſt of a bleſſed Reſurrection, and the pledge of immortality: Beſides innumerable good things, which thy moſt tender mercy hath been pleaſed to beſtow upon our bodies, to make our paſſage to that bleſſedneſs, through all the troubles and dangers of this life, the more eaſie and delightful to us. And all this thou haſt done for thoſe who have been too idle and uſeleſs, cold and dull, inconſtant, and ſoon weary of their duty, forgetful of benefits, and unfaithful to their own promiſes. But thy infinite goodneſs ſtill continues to do it; to make us more diligent, more zealous, more ſtedfaſt and immoveable, more mindful of thee, and of our own holy purpoſes, that we may be abundant, as there is reaſon, in the work of our Lord, knowing that our labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

And that is the moſt ſincere and fervent deſire of our ſouls likewiſe, who here moſt humbly beſeech thee, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, to preſerve in us a perpetual and affectionate remembrance of all thy undeſerved kindneſs to us. Stir up all that is within us every morning to bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name: That by a renewed, ſerious acknowledgment of thy benefits, we may be more and more ſtirred up to love, and to all good works. O that the Lord Jeſus may be always in our thoughts, and in our hearts; that we may make him our pattern, as he is our hope! O that nothing may be ſo dear unto us in this world, as his holineſs, his humility, his goodneſs and charity, his meek-

neſs and patience, his entire truſt in thee, an reſignation to thee, his delight to do thy will

O God, in hope of that *eterna*
Tit. 1. 1. *life, which thou who canſt not l*
haſt promiſed to us. Fix our mind and affections more ſtedfaſtly on that glor wherewith he is crowned, by his obedient ſuffer ing of death, that we may never be weary n faint in our minds under any ſufferings for we doing: but continuing faithful to the death, ma alſo receive the Crown of Life. And be graci ouſly pleaſed, O Lord, to fulfil the devou prayers of thy Church, which have been this da offered unto thee for all mankind; Eſpecial for all Chriſtian people, for theſe Kingdoms for our Sovereign and all the Royal Family for our Spiritual Paſtors and Governours, fo all ſorts and conditions of men among us. Le all thoſe ſupplications for Grace, Mercy an Peace; together with all the Praiſes and Thanks givings which have been rendred for all th Bleſſings, be ever acceptable in thy ſight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer.

And particularly, we beſeech thee to accept o this our bounden duty and ſervice; pity ou great weakneſſes; pardon all our ſins and negli gences; and deny us not the grace of thy Ho ly Spirit, which we have implored, to enable u to amend our lives according to thy holy Word But after thou haſt refreſhed us with quiet ſlee this night, let us feel it moving our hearts t the ſame holy thoughts, acknowledgments, de ſires and reſolutions which it now works in us through thy mercy declared to us in Chriſt Jeſus In whoſe words we conclude our Prayers, ſay ing, as he hath taught us.

Our

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

Prayers for Families.

Munday Morning.

WE humble our ſelves, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, before thy glorious Majeſty; we heartily acknowledge thy Sovereign Dominion over us and all creatures; we praiſe and magnifie thy eternal Power, Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; and we render thee our moſt unfeigned thanks for the innumerable benefits which thou in thy bounty haſt loaded us withal: Above all for the gracious declaration thou haſt made of thy good will to us in Chriſt Jeſus; by whom thou haſt invited and encouraged ſinners to return to thee, and directed them in the way to everlaſting bliſs.

We bluſh to think of our ſhameful forgetfulneſs of thee, and ingratitude to thee; to whom we owe all that we have in this world, and all our hopes in the next. We moſt humbly implore thy tender mercies in the forgiveneſs of all our ſins, whereby we have offended, either in thought, word or deed,

againſt thy juſt and holy Laws. For we are truly ſorry for all our miſ-doings: we utterly renounce whatſoever is contrary to thy will, and here devote our ſelves entirely to the obedience thereof. Accept, O moſt merciful Father, of this renewed Dedication, which we make of our whole man, body, ſoul, and ſpirit to thee. And as thou doſt inſpire us with holy reſolutions, ſo accompany them always with the aſſiſtance of thy grace; that we may be able every day to offer up our ſelves more ſincerely, and more chearfully to thee, with more pure affection, and hearty devotion, and ready diſpoſition to thy ſervice.

We adore thy great grace which hath brought ſalvation to us, and *teaches us that denying all ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, we ſhould live ſoberly, righteouſly, and godly in this preſent world.* We will endeavour, O Lord, to preſerve a grateful ſenſe of thy mighty love in our minds, and to follow the Doctrine and Example of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus; as becomes thoſe who have ſuch a *bleſſed hope*, and look for ſo great Salvation at the day of his glorious appearing. We deſire above all things to be ſo pure and undefiled, ſo meek and gentle, ſo humble and lowly, ſo juſt and merciful, ſo peaceable and patient, contented and thankful, as our bleſſed Lord and Maſter was: And we hope that thou wilt fulfil all the gracious promiſes he hath made to us, which we eſteem far greater treaſure than thouſands of gold and ſilver. They are the ſupport, the comfort, the ſatisfaction of our hearts. We ask nothing, but that it may be to thy ſervants according to his Word.

Tit. 2.11,12.

Thou haſt mercifully kept us the laſt night, bleſſed be thy continued goodneſs, and raiſed us again to ſee the light of this morning: Receive us likewiſe all this day into thy protection, to which we moſt hum-

humbly commit our ſelves. We truſt our ſelves and all belonging to us with thee our Creator and Redeemer. We ſubmit to thy orders, and are willing to do and ſuffer what thou pleaſeſt: *Waiting for the mercy of our Lord Chriſt Jeſus unto eternal Life.* Jude 21.

And we deſire, thou knoweſt, the good of all mankind, as well as our own; eſpecially of all Chriſtian People: that they may all walk worthy of the Goſpel, and live together in unity and godly love. For which end, we pray that all Chriſtian Kings, Princes and Governours, may be wiſe, pious, juſt and merciful; endeavouring that all their ſubjects may lead peaceable lives under them, in all godlineſs and honeſty. And more particularly, that our Sovereign may be bleſſed with a religious, quiet, long and proſperous Reign: and that all his Miniſters of State, and Officers of Juſtice, may conſcientiouſly diſcharge the truſt that is repoſed in them; ſeeking in their ſeveral places how to right the oppreſſed, to comfort the afflicted, to provide for the poor and needy, and to relieve all thoſe that are in any miſery. Bleſs all our ſpiritual Paſtors and Inſtructors: ſucceed their labours; and give us grace to follow their godly admonitions, *to eſteem them very highly in love for their works ſake; and to be at peace among our ſelves.* 1 Theſ. 5. 13. The ſame bleſſings we crave for all our friends, relations and acquaintance; that we may all live in perfect love and peace together, doing our duties to thee, to each other, and to all men, ſo faithfully, that we may give a comfortable account of our ſelves, and rejoyce together at the great day of the Lord Jeſus. In whoſe holy words we beſeech thee to help us ſtill more heartily to offer up our deſires to thee.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALmighty and moſt merciful Father; by whom we were made, and in whom we live, move and have our being: to whoſe tender compaſſions we owe our ſafety the day paſt, together with all the comforts of this preſent life, and the hopes of that which is to come. We praiſe and laud thee, O Lord, the Creator and Governour of the world. We aſcribe all Greatneſs, Might, Majeſty, Wiſdom, Riches and Bounty to thee; whom all the Hoſt of Heaven continually admires and acknowledges with the moſt joyful reverence. We bow our ſelves likewiſe before thee and worſhip thee, in an humble ſenſe that we are nothing in compariſon with thee, and have nothing but what we receive from thee. *Unto thee*

Pſal. 75. 1. *do we give thanks, unto thee do we*

Pſ. 43. 4. 68. 19 *give thanks, O God, our exceeding joy, who daily poureſt thy benefits upon us.*

Bleſſed be thy great Goodneſs, for the long health which by thy favour we have enjoyed; for our food and our raiment; for our peace and our ſafety; for the ſociety of our friends, and the love of our neighbours; for the ſucceſs thou haſt given to our honeſt labours; after the things of this life, and to our pious endeavours to attain that life which is immortal. We can never bleſs thee enough for that wonderful Grace, which ſent Jeſus Chriſt to reveal that eternal life to us, and to direct us in the way that leads unto it; by his dwelling among us, and by his dying for us, and by his riſing again to be the Lord of Life and Glory, and to ſend his Apoſtles to preach this glad tidings of Salvation to the world. We thank thee with all our Soul that we feel in our hearts any motion towards thee, and that we have made the leaſt progreſs in the paths of Life, which thy goodneſs hath laid before us ſo plainly in thy holy Goſpel.

Behold, O Lord, we preſent our ſelves here before thee to be inſpired with ſuch a vigorous and full ſenſe of thy love, as may move us more powerfully towards thee; and put us forward with a greater earneſtneſs, zeal and diligence in all our duty. There is nothing in heaven or earth that we can deſire, but to be beloved of thee; who poſſeſſeſt both, and art able to make thy friends as great and happy as thou pleaſeſt. Aſſiſt us therefore ſtill by thy grace, to the recovery of ſuch a lively Image of thee in all righteouſneſs, purity, mercy, faithfulneſs and truth; that we may know thou loveſt us. O that Jeſus, the hope of glory, may be formed in us, in all humility, meekneſs, patience, contentedneſs, peaceableneſs, and abſolute ſurrender of our ſouls and bodies to thy holy will and pleaſure: That *we may no longer live, but Chriſt may live in us, and the life we lead in the fleſh may be by the faith of thy Son, O God, who loved us, and gave himſelf for us.* Gal. 2. 20.

The remembrance of that love is moſt dear and precious to us. We cannot often enough make mention of ſo great kindneſs, as his making himſelf freely an offering for our ſins. It moves us, again to offer up our ſelves ſincerely to thee, to do thy will, O God, as our bleſſed Lord and Maſter did. We repoſe alſo an entire confidence in thee, & ſtill truſt our ſelves with thee, who haſt *not ſpared thine own Son, but given him up for us all.* Rom. 8. 32. We will humbly and reverently accept of whatſoever thou ſendeſt us; and *in every thing give thanks, which is thy will concerning us in Chriſt Jeſus.* 1 Theſ. 5. 18. We hope thou wilt never leave us nor forſake us: but conduct us ſafe through all varieties and changes of our condition here, in an unchangeable love to thee, and in an holy compoſure and tranquillity of mind in thy love to us, till we come to live with thee, and enjoy thee for ever.

And

And now that we are going to lay our selves down to sleep, take us into thy gracious protection; and settle our spirits in such quiet and delightful thoughts of the glory where our Lord Jesus lives, that we may be willing to leave this world, and go to him: *Who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.*

1 Thes. 5. 10.

To his blessing we commend all man-kind, of whatsoever rank and condition they be; high and low, rich and poor; that they may all be so happy as to do their several duties carefully, and to enjoy contentedly whatsoever is needful for them. And especially we beseech thee, *that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy Governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee in all Godly quietness.* We leave all we have with thee, especially our friends, and those who are dear unto us; desiring that when we are dead and gone, they may lift up their Souls in this manner unto thee, and teach those that come after to praise, love and obey thee: and that if we awake again in the morning, our mouths may likewise praise thee again with joyful lips, and we may still offer our selves a more acceptable Sacrifice to thee, through Christ Jesus. In whose words we beseech thee to hear us, according to the fullest sense and intention of them.

Our Father, &c.

Prayers for Families.

Tuesday Morning.

ALL honour, glory and praise be given to thee, O Lord, our Creator, Redeemer and Comforter, by us, and by all the World. Thou art worthy of all our Love,

love, service and obedience, being most excellent in thine own nature, and of so abundant kindness to us thy creatures: Who most humbly therefore prostrate our selves before thee this Morning, to make thee our thankful acknowledgments for all thy benefits, and tender thee our most hearty and affectionate service, and wait upon thy bounty for the continuance of thy grace and mercy to us. Though we are not worthy, we confess, of the least regard from thee, whom we have so much neglected, and whose love and clemency we have too often abused; yet we hope thou wilt accept of this small oblation which we make of our selves, our souls and bodies, with unfeigned devotion to thee. Pardon and forgive us, we most humbly beseech thee, all our past offences, the remembrance of which is grievous and bitter to us: and vouchsafe us the grace of thy holy Spirit, to enable us to do thy will with greater care and diligence for the time to come. Let it ever accompany and assist us, according as thou seest us sincerely desirous and studious to please thee, in all the actions of an holy life, in chastity and temperance, justice and fidelity, mercy and charity, meekness and humility, patience and contentedness, innocency and peace; and in continual prayers, praises and thanksgivings to thee, the Father of mercies in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We see how frail and weak our bodies and all their enjoyments are; and therefore we the more earnestly desire to have our souls enriched with those immortal treasures of thy Divine Grace. O that we may never cease most zealously to seek and pursue them; and that we may think our selves happy enough in the possession of them; and may rejoyce in nothing so much, as in *having our fruit unto holiness*, that in *the end* we may attain *eternal life*. Rom. 6. 22.

Suffer not our spirits to sink too deep into the love

of

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love, ſervice and obedience, being moſt excellent in thine own nature, and of ſo abundant kindneſs to us thy creatures: Who moſt humbly therefore proſtrate our ſelves before thee this Morning, to make thee our thankful acknowledgments for all thy benefits, and tender thee our moſt hearty and affectionate ſervice, and wait upon thy bounty for the continuance of thy grace and mercy to us. Though we are not worthy, we confeſs, of the leaſt regard from thee, whom we have ſo much neglected, and whoſe love and clemency we have too often abuſed; yet we hope thou wilt accept of this ſmall oblation which we make of our ſelves, our ſouls and bodies, with unfeigned devotion to thee. Pardon and forgive us, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, all our paſt offences, the remembrance of which is grievous and bitter to us: and vouchſafe us the grace of thy holy Spirit, to enable us to do thy will with greater care and diligence for the time to come. Let it ever accompany and aſſiſt us, according as thou ſeeſt us ſincerely deſirous and ſtudious to pleaſe thee, in all the actions of an holy life, in chaſtity and temperance, juſtice and fidelity, mercy and charity, meekneſs and humility, patience and contentedneſs, innocency and peace; and in continual prayers, praiſes and thankſgivings to thee, the Father of mercies in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord.

We ſee how frail and weak our bodies and all their enjoyments are; and therefore we the more earneſtly deſire to have our ſouls enriched with thoſe immortal treaſures of thy Divine Grace. O that we may never ceaſe moſt zealouſly to ſeek and purſue them; and that we may think our ſelves happy enough in the poſſeſſion of them; and may rejoyce in nothing ſo much, as in *having our fruit unto holineſs*, that in *the end* we may attain *eternal life*. Rom. 6. 22.

Suffer not our ſpirits to ſink too deep into the love

of

of any the dearest good, that we have in this world; But rather by all these earthly things, which thy goodness affords to us for our support, ease and delight, raise our minds and hearts to those Celestial enjoyments which will yield us eternal pleasure and satisfaction. Set out affections principally on things above. Make us so wise as to provide our selves friends that never dye; and to be still preparing our selves by all divine qualities for their company and society: that so they may *receive us,*

Luke 16. 9. when we remove hence, *into* their *everlasting habitations.*

Thus now we commend our selves this day to thy most gracious protection, guidance and blessing: hoping that the same good providence which preserved us and our habitations the last night, from fire, and innumerable other dangers (for which we thank thee) will guard us this day from all evil and mischief, and bring us in safety of soul and body to praise thee in the Evening. Help us thankfully to receive, and soberly to use all thy mercies; quietly to do our own business, and bear our several burdens; to be just in our dealings, innocent and harmless in our conversation; well pleased with the prosperity of our neighbours; desirous of the good of all the World: especially that they may all love, and honour, and joyn together in magnifying and praising thee, our Lord and Governour, whose Name is excellent in all the Earth.

More particularly, we implore thy mercies towards these Kingdoms wherein we live. Remember not against us our high provocations. Spare us good Lord, and have patience with us; if perhaps we may bring forth better fruit, becoming thy holy Gospel, and all the care thou hast taken about us. Endue our Sovereign with much Wisdom from above, that he may always discern what is most profitable for us, & earnestly pursue it to the utmost of his power. Bless him in his Relations;

ons; in his Counsellors; in his Judges, and all other Officers; in all the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry and Commonalty of the Realm: that every one of them may uptrightly and zealously do their duty; to the maintenance of thy true Religion, and the encrease of Piety, Honesty and Brotherly love among us. Comfort and relieve all those that are in distress, trouble, or anguish, either of body or mind. And give us tender and pitiful hearts towards them, ready to help and ease them according to our abilities: That we following the example of our merciful and compassionate High Priest, Christ Jesus, may have now the benefit of his intercession for us, and at last be admitted into the high and holy place where he is. In whose blessed Name and words, we conclude our Prayers.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

WE fall down before Thee, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, and worship thee in the deepest humility of our souls: acknowledging that we are thy Creatures, who stand infinitely bound unto thee, by innumereble blessings and favours which thou hast conferred upon us, out of thy mere bounty and goodness. We owe our lives to that alone, and all the comforts of them; together with all the hopes we have hereafter, either in this world, or in the other. And blessed, for ever blessed be thy merciful kindness, for giving such glorious hopes by the Lord Jesus: By his Death, and Resurrection; by his Ascension, and being enthroned at thy right hand; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost to be a witness of his Majesty and Glory. We rejoyce, O Lord, in that great salvation which thou hast sent unto us; and cannot but be still praising thee, whose love hath so abounded towards us, beyond

all

all our thoughts and desires. Pardon, we most humbly beseech thee, out of the same grace and mercy, all our past neglects of thee, our insensibleness of thy benefits, our carelessness, or inconstancy in our obedience, & particularly whatsoever we have done or omitted this day, contrary to those holy purposes and resolutions wherein we stand engaged to thee.

And vouchsafe us the assistance of thy holy Spirit, to enable us to perform those vows better, which here we renew, of greater gratitude, and more chearful and stedfast obedience to thy Divine Majesty for the time to come. Awaken our minds to frequent and serious reflexions upon thy undeserved and most bountiful mercies towards us. Touch our hearts with such an ingenuous and dutiful sense of them, that our wills may be overcome to yield themselves wholly and absolutely to thee.

And that we may feel them constantly provoked to love and good works, help us ever to set our Lord and Master, by whose name we are called, before our eyes, and to admire his unspotted purity, his condescending humility, his tender-hearted charity, his meekness & wisdom, his hearty trust in thee, and resignation to thee, his forgiveness of injuries, his patience under reproaches and cruel torments, his peaceable and contented spirit, his acknowledging thee in all things, and ever seeking thy Honour and Glory; that being in love with all these, and valuing them more than life itself, we may never cease our endeavours till this Image of our dearest Lord and Master be formed in our hearts.

O Lord Jesus, favourably behold these holy desires wherewith our souls aspire towards thee. Preserve and maintain them; encourage and encrease them; make them restless and unwearied, till they be accomplished in the enjoyment of this great blessedness.

Thou who hast begun a good work in us, finish and com-

complete it, we moſt humbly and earneſtly beſeech thee. Give us thy grace continually for our ſeaſonable relief and ſuccour, that we perſevering in well doing, may have a ſolid and lively hope in our death, of coming to ſee thee in that high and holy place where thou liveſt and reigneſt for evermore.

As for all the things of this life, we moſt heartily refer our ſelves to thy Fatherly Wiſdom and Goodneſs, O Lord God Almighty: truſting thou wilt order for us that which is moſt convenient, and bleſs our honeſt diligence with ſuch a competent portion of them, that we may have the more leiſure to give continual praiſe, honour, bleſſing and thankſgiving to thee, whoſe mercies endure for ever.

Accept, we pray thee, of our thankful acknowledgments at this time, for thoſe which this day hath added to the reſt of thy benefits, which thou haſt been continually heaping upon us ever ſince we were born. And let all the people of the earth praiſe the Name of the Lord, which is highly exalted above all bleſſings and praiſe. O that all the Kingdoms of the World would become the Kingdoms of our Saviour Chriſt: and that all they who acknowledge his authority, would religiouſly obey his holy Laws; that all wars, oppreſſion and cruelty may ceaſe among Chriſtian people, and they may live together in brotherly love and unity. Make our Sovereign and all his Realms happy, by a great encreaſe of true knowledge, godlineſs and vertue every where. Bleſs all our friends; forgive our Enemies; requite all the kindneſs of our benefactors; comfort every one of thy deſolate and afflicted ſervants; and turn their mourning and heavineſs into joy and gladneſs at the laſt.

And now that we are going to repoſe our ſelves, keep us, we beſeech thee, and all belonging to us, in ſafety. Refreſh our wearied ſpirits with comfortable reſt and ſleep; and when we awaken again in the morning, di-

direct our thoughts immediately to thee, our merciful preserver; and help us to imploy all our renewed strength to thy honour and glory, according to thy will declared by Christ Jesus; in whose most blessed Name and Words we commend our selves to thy infinite Mercies.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

Prayers for Families

Wednesday Morning.

O Most great and mighty Lord; the Possessor of Heaven and Earth, all the Angels worship and adore thy incomprehensible Majesty with the humblest reverence; and rejoyce in rendring praise, blessing and thanksgiving to Thee, the Father of Spirits: For thou hast created all things, and in wisdom hast thou made them all, and spread thy tender mercies over all thy works. It is no less our happiness than our duty to joyn our hearts and voices with that heavenly host, most gratefully to acknowledge thy bounty to us among the rest of thy creatures; and thy particular grace and favour in our Lord Jesus Christ, our most merciful Saviour and Redeemer. We can never sufficiently admire that love which gave him to die for us, and hath made him the lord of life and glory; that he may be the

thor of eternal Salvation to all those that obey him. All the love we have is too little to give thee, to whom all our services are due by a former title. Our highest praises fall infinitely short of thy most excellent Majesty; and we are ashamed of the most affectionate thanks we can render to thee for those inestimable benefits which thou hast conferred on us, and so long continued to us.

How much greater reason then have we to be abashed at our shameful ingratitude and disobedienee to thy Divine Majesty; for which we are heartily sorry, and do now most earnestly repent our selves of it: unfeignedly resolving and protesting to be more faithful to thee for the time to come. Pardon us therefore, Good Lord, and receive us unto thy mercy. Accept of our renewed vows to study and do our duties conscientiously, towards thee, and towards all men. And as thou hast excited those holy desires and purposes in our hearts, so enable us to perform them constantly in the whole course of our life.

Our blessed Saviour hath told us, thou wilt as readily give thy holy Spirit to them that ask it, as a Parent will give bread to his hungry children. O Father of mercies, let it be unto us according to his Word. Cherish these little beginnings of goodness which thou seest in our souls; and prosper all our endeavours to attain a greater measure of it. And since at the best we are but unprofitable servants, and can do no more than was our duty to do: enable us to do every thing, which thou hast commanded us, heartily, with good will, and true love to thy service.

We know this is all that can, in the least, commend us to thy free grace and favour: and therefore we most humbly again devote our selves to do thy will, with a cordial affection to it. We would ever approach unto thee with delight and pleasure: and feel it the

joy

joy of our hearts to think of thee, to praise thee, to gi
thee thanks, and to offer our selves with absolute res
nation to thee. O that Mercy may always please us, as
pleaseth Thee! that we may be strictly just and rig
teous; may chearfully pass by injuries; freely deny
desires of sinful pleasures; willingly submit to thy
therly corrections; and performe the duties of our
veral relations, with singleness of heart. Render
so mindful of the great love of our Lord and Mas
Christ, that we may be zealously concerned for
glory, and use our utmost diligence to do Him and
Religion some honour in the World: delighting
commemorate his Death and Passion, making a joy
sacrifice of our souls and bodies to him, and desi
most earnestly that his *Kingdom may come*, and
mankind submit themselves to his Government.

Fulfil, most merciful Lord, all our petitions; an
thou hast mightily protected us, and our dwellings
last night from fire and thieves, & whatsoever m
disturb our repose (blessed be thy goodness) so acc
pany us all this day with thy blessing: that we
please thee in body and soul, and be safe under thy
fence; who art nigh to all those that call upon t
that call upon thee in truth.

And O that all those who are forgetful of their d
to thee, may be awakened to a lively sense of all
benefits, and fill the whole world with thy pra
Stir up especially the minds of all Christian Peopl
inquire after and follow the truth, as it is in Jesus:
bandoning all vice and wickedness, and exerci
themselves to have consciences void of offence
wards thee, and towards all men. And dispose
hearts of all their Kings and Princes, to make th
selves the greatest examples of Christian Piety t
others. Bless these Kingdoms, and endue our Sover
with such excellent Wisdom, and holy Zeal for
honour and glory, that we may see many good days
der his Government. O that true Religion, Just

Me

Mercy, Brotherly kindneſs, and all things elſe that are praiſe-worthy, may ſo flouriſh among us, that we may enjoy the bleſſings of peace and plenty, and there may be no complaining in our ſtreets.

We recommend to thee all our freinds and neighbours; all the poor, the ſick, and other afflicted perſons: deſiring thoſe mercies for them which we ſhould ask for our ſelves, were we in their condition: O *God, whoſe never-failing Providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; put away from them and us, we humbly beſeech thee, all hurtful things, and give us thoſe things which be profitable for us*; according to the large declarations which thou haſt made of thy abundant goodneſs to Mankind in our Lord Jeſus. In whoſe words we conclude our humble ſupplications unto thee; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALmighty and evetlaſting God; the Sovereign Lord of all creatures in Heaven and Earth, and our moſt merciful and graciousFather in thy Son Chriſt Jeſus; We moſt heartily acknowledge that our beings, and all the comforts of them depend on thee, the Fountain of all good. We have nothing but what we have received thence, and is owing entirely to to thy free and bounteous love, O moſt bleſſed Creator; and to the unſearchable riches of thy grace, O moſt bleſſed Redeemer.

To thee therefore be given by us and all creatures, whom thou haſt made to know how great and how good thou art, all honour, glory and praiſe; all love, ſervice and obedience, as long as we have any being. *It is but meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we ſhould at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee,*

O

O *Lord*; and devoutly resign both soul and body to thee, to be absolutely governed and ruled according to thy holy will and pleasure. We are heartily sorry that we have not done it from the very beginning of our lives till this time. We are ashamed to think of our injustice and ingratitude, in following our own desires so long, and rendring our selves, no sooner, most humbly obedient in all things to thee. Our hopes are only in those infinite mercies, which have spared us notwithstanding, and opened our eyes to see our errors, and touched our hearts with some sense of our duty.

And we hope in them not only for a pardon, which we earnestly implore according to thy gracious promises made in Christ Jesus, but for the power of thy holy Spirit, to further and promote those godly resolutions, which we feel already in our hearts, to live as becomes the Disciples of Jesus Christ, who were early dedicated to thee, and have often since vowed themselves to thy service. As thou hast made us understand the reasonableness and goodness of all thy Laws, so incline our wills to be more and more in love with them; till they be writ upon our hearts. Stir up our wills to *love them exceedingly*, and to cleave unto them as our very life. Let thy grace continually prevent and follow us, to keep alive such a powerful sense of thee, and of the love of our Lord and Saviour in our mind; that we may naturally fear and reverence thee, and study to be approved of thee and beloved by thee, and account it our highest perfection and happiness to be like thee.

O that it may ever be the joy of our hearts to be Righteous as thou art Righteous: to be Merciful, as thou our Heavenly Father art Merciful; to be holy, as thou who hast called us art Holy, in all manner of conversation; to be endued with thy Divine Wisdom, and to resemble thee in Faithfulness and

Truth

Truth: O that the memory of our blessed Saviour, and his admirable example may be always dear unto us: that we may chearfully follow him in his Humility, Meekness, Patience, Contentedness, Peaceableness, and Delight to do thy Will, O God, in every thing as he did. Accept, we most humbly beseech thee, of these desires of our souls after thee; and graciously assist and strengthen them, according as we unfeignedly offer them up unto thee.

Accept likewise of our thanks for thy merciful preservation of us all this day; by which we are come in safety to the conclusion of it, and are here before thee with a new load of thy benefits upon us, added to other innumerable blessings which thou hast formerly bestowed. We are bold again likewise to commit our selves unto thee this night; and to trust in thy merciful protection and care over us, when we can take no care of our selves, or any thing else belonging to us. Defend us from all the powers of Darkness, from evil Men, from Fire, and all such sad accidents: and raise up our spirits, together with our bodies, in the morning, to such a vigorous sense of thy continued goodness, as may provoke us all the day long to an unwearied diligence in well doing.

And the same Mercies that we beg for our selves, we desire for the rest of mankind; especially for all those who are called by the name of Christ. O that every member of that body, of which he is the head, may do their duties with all fidelity, according to the several Offices to which thou hast assigned them. That Kings may be tender hearted, as the Fathers of their Countries; and all their Subjects may be dutiful and obedient to them as their children: That the Pastors of the Church may feed thy Flock with true Wisdom and Understanding; and the people may all submit unto them, and follow their godly counsels: That the rich and mighty may have compassion on the poor

and

and miſerable; and all ſuch diſtreſſed people m
bleſs the rich, and rejoyce in the proſperity of th
that are above them. Give Husbands and Wiv
Parents and Children, Maſters and Servants, g
grace to behave themſelves ſo in their ſeveral Re
tions, that they may adorn the Doctrine of G
our Saviour in all things; and being an honour
his Religion here, may receive immortal honour
glory hereafter from the hands of Chriſt Jeſus;
whoſe holy Name and words, we continue to
ſeech thy grace and mercy towards us, and all
People every where: ſaying,

*Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be
Name: Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in ea
as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bre
And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive
that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into tem
tion, but deliver us from evil,* &c.

Prayers for Familie

Thurſday Morning.

O Lord, the high and holy One, whoſe
is above the earth and
Pſal. 148. 13. *ven*; We thy Creat
proſtrate our ſelves in
humbleſt adorations of Thee: aſcribing to
all Power, Wiſdom, Riches, Might, Majeſty
Dominion; and acknowledging, that to The
right belongs all Worſhip, Bleſſing, Thankſgi

and Praiſe; together with all Honour, Love, Service and Obedience for evermore. Bleſſed be thine Omnipotent goodneſs, which hath advanced us to ſuch a degree of being, that we are capable to look back to thee from whom we come; to know thee, to love thee, to acknowledge thy great bounty towards us, and to reſemble thee in Wiſdome and Goodneſs. All that is within us bleſſeth thy holy Name, for breathing into us immortal ſpirits, that we may eternally admire thee, praiſe thee, love thee, and joyfully render thoſe grateful acknowledgements which we owe unto thee. We can never ſufficiently magnifie thy mercies towards us; eſpecially thoſe in the Lord Jeſus, in whom thy Grace hath ſo exceedingly abounded, as to ſurpaſs not only our deſerts, but the largeſt of our deſires.

Bleſſed, bleſſed, for ever bleſſed be thy fatherly goodneſs, who haſt ſent him from heaven ſo unexpectedly, to viſit us vile wretches, who dwell in houſes of clay, whoſe foundation is in the duſt. Lord! what is man, that thou art mindful of him; or the ſon of man, that thou didſt thus viſit him? We thank thee, according to our poor ability, from the very bottom of our hearts, for his manifeſtation in our fleſh; for the charitable teſtimonies he gave of his love to mankind in the courſe of his life; for that aſtoniſhing grace in ſubmitting himſelf to die for us, for his glorious Reſurrection and Aſcenſion to Heaven; for the Sovereign Power and Authority which thou haſt given him at thy right hand; for his compaſſionate interceſſion for us; and the aſſurances we have received of his being the King of Glory, and of his continued kindneſs to us, by the coming of the Holy Ghoſt. We will never ceaſe to bleſs thee for that great ſalvation, *which was firſt preached by the Lord, and was confirmed*

by them that heard him; and for the witneſs whi
thou bareſt to them, both with ſig
Heb. 2. 3, 4. *and wonders, and with divers mir*
cles and gifts of the Holy Ghoſt,
cording to thy own will.

We rejoyce in the light of thy holy Goſpel; th
we ſee the way to be happy both by the Doctri
and Example of thy Son Jeſus; that we have the
couragement of his precious promiſes; and ſu
good hope of remiſſion of ſin, and eternal life,
the day when he ſhall judge the World in righteo
neſs. O how much are we bound unto thee, for th
comfortable hope which thou haſt given us, of ſ
ing our dear Saviour in all his glory, and being th
where he is, and reigning with him for ever!
again render thee our moſt hearty thanks,
that everlaſting conſolation and good h
through grace, which thou haſt given us: and
all thoſe benefits likewiſe, which thou art plea
to beſtow upon us, to make our ſtay here on ea
the more convenient and delightful to us. We
every way obliged to thee, beyond all that we
able to expreſs or conceive. Thou feedeſt us,
clotheſt us; thou preſerveſt our health,
our ſtrength; thou haſt delivered us from in
merable dangers; and when thou haſt chaſtiſed
in hath been in great mercy and clemency,
not according to our deſerving.

O that all the world ſhould ſhew forth
praiſe, and devote themſelves to the ſervice
our Lord. Let all Kings of the Earth ſub
themſelves unto him, and glory in the Nam
his obedient Subjects. High and low, rich
poor, let them praiſe the Name of the Lord f
this time forth and for evermore. For *great is the L*
and greatly to be praiſed; eſpecially *in the aſſem*
of the Saints, and by thy Church and Houſhold; wh

we beſeech thee to keep, and to continue in thy true Religion. *As thou ſheweſt to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteouſneſs; ſo grant unto all them that are admitted into the Fellowſhip of Chriſt's Religion, that they may eſchew thoſe things that are contrary to their profeſſion, and follow all ſuch things as are agreeable to the ſame.*

Accept, moſt gracious God, of theſe unfeigned deſires of us thy ſervants; who, for our parts, entirely dedicate our ſelves, both ſouls and bodies, unto thee; Reſolving in all things to walk worthy of thee, who haſt called us to thy Kingdom and Glory, and bleſſed us alſo with many other good things which make this life to be a more eaſie paſſage to a better. We will never forget how much we are indebted to thee: but ſtudy to expreſs our grateful remembrance of thy mercies, by living *ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent World*; Tit. 2. 12, 13. *looking for that bleſſed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Favour, we pray thee, theſe holy purpoſes with the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good ſpirit; that we may be able to accompliſh what we have begun, and to perfect holineſs in thy fear. Help us to *add to our faith, vertue; and to vertue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godlineſs; and to godlineſs, brotherly kindneſs; and to brotherly kindneſs, charity. That theſe things being in us and abounding, they may make us to be neither barren, nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.* 2 Pet. 1. 5. to 8.

Preſerve us this day eſpecially; that we ſwerve not preſently from theſe pious reſolutions: But may give ſuch a proof of their ſincerity, by our being ſtedfaſt and immoveable in all well-doing notwith-

ſtanding any temptation to the contrary; that we may have the better hope we ſhall perſevere to the very end, through thy continued grace in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe words we deſire all that thou ſeeſt needful either for our Souls or Bodies, for our ſelves or others, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

WE are here again proſtrate before thee, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, to joyn our ſelves with all that holy company, *who reſt not day and night, ſaying, Holy, holy, holy,*

Rev. 4. 8. 11. *Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. Thou art worthy O Lord, to receive glory, honour and power: for thou haſt created all things, and for thy pleaſure they are and were created.* Bleſſed be thy divine goodneſs, which hath made the children of men but little lower than the Angels; and crowned us with ſuch glory and honour, that we are capable to accompany that heavenly Hoſt in giving continual thanks and praiſe unto thee. Praiſed be thy Name that we are now alive, and that we have the uſe of our reaſon and underſtanding; and enjoy ſo many of the comforts and conveniencies of this preſent life; and have attained a good hope through Chriſt Jeſus of being immortally happy.

O how great was thy love which ſent him into the World to direct us in the way to that happineſs by his holy doctrine and life: and to be a propitiation for our ſin by his death; and to *be the firſt*

Acts 26. 23. *that ſhould riſe from the dead; and ſhould ſhew light unto the World.* We rejoyce

rejoyce in that light of life: We moſt chearfully devote our ſelves to be the faithful Diſciples of him, the Prince of peace, the Lord of life and glory. It is our happineſs as well as our duty to be governed by him, and obey his commands. We are ſenſible that they are all equal, juſt and good: and that thou haſt done us an infinite kindneſs, in teaching us to deny ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, and to live ſoberly, righteouſly, and godly in this preſent world.

And therefore we here again moſt heartily ſurrender our wills to thine: deſiring that we may unchangeably cleave unto it, with the greateſt and moſt entire love and affection to all its Commands. O that there may abide for ever in us ſ ch a ſtrong and powerful ſenſe of thy mighty love towards us in Chriſt Jeſus, as may conſtrain us freely and willingly to pleaſe thee in the conſtant exerciſe of piety and devotion; righteouſneſs and mercy; temperance and chaſtity; meekneſs and patience; truth and fidelity; together with ſuch an humble, contented and peaceable ſpirit, as may adorn the Religion of our Lord and Maſter. O God, that theſe holy deſires and inclinations may never die, nor languiſh in our hearts: but be kept alive in their vigour and force, by the perpetual inſpirations of the Holy Ghoſt.

We wait upon thee for that promiſe of our Saviour, to aſſiſt and promote our ſincere endeavours, to preſerve our Souls unblameable in the love of thee our God, and of all mankind. We heartily deſire the proſperity and welfare of every one of them, as well as our own. O that they were all ſo wiſe and happy as to acknowledge and ſubmit themſelves to thee, by obeying thy holy Laws. Eſpecially we deſire that all Kings and Princes may become our Saviours Subjects; and conforming themſelves to his will, may be rendered thereby

moſt excellent examples to all other men. Endu
our Sovereign with abundance of the Spirit o
Counſel and Judgment, and the fear of our Lor
Make him happy in wiſe and faithful Miniſters
in loyal and peaceable Subjects; and in the goo
ſucceſs of all his enterpriſes, for the honour of Re
ligion, and his Peoples tranquility. We commen
to thy mercies all our Friends, Relations, and Be
nefactors: deſiring that all who have done us goo
may be requited an hundred fold here, and ob
tain at laſt eternal life. And all that have done
vil to us, as we heartily forgive them, ſo we ea
neſtly deſire they may obtain thy gracious pa
don. Together with theſe, we remember likewiſe
that are in affliction, whatſoever it be either
ſoul or body: to whom we wiſh eaſe, and com
fort, and ſeaſonable relief; that they may rejoy
in the end for the Days wherein they have ſe
adverſity.

In theſe holy thoughts and deſires we now
bold to commend our ſelves to thy protecti
this night; who haſt preſerved and bleſſed us (
moſt thankfully acknowledge) all the day paſt. W
repoſe our ſelves in the belief of thy good providenc
with which we intruſt our ſelves, and all belon
ing to us. We would lay down our ſelves to ſlee
with hearts full of love to thee, and humble faith a
hope in thee: deſiring we may awake again in t
ſame manner, and find that we are ſtill wi
Thee. Diſpoſe us, good Lord, by the reſt th
giveſt us, always to ſerve thee more zealouſly wi
our renewed ſpirits: that after the few days a
nights we have to paſs in this World, we m
come to thy eternal reſt together with Chriſt J
ſus. In whoſe bleſſed name and words, we fi
recommend our ſelves to thy mercies.

O

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

Prayers for Families.

Friday Morning.

O God, moſt bleſſed for ever: whoſe the world is, and the fulneſs thereof; who needeſt not any thing that we can give thee, for thou giveſt us whatſoever we enjoy. We proſtrate our ſelves before thee to make ſuch poor expreſſions as we are able, of the ſenſe we have of thine infinite bounty to us. It is but fit and meet that we ſhould acknowledge and praiſe thee, though we can thereby add nothing unto thee. It is our happineſs to have a grateful remembrance of thy goodneſs to us: and to be knit unto thee in hearty love, and dutiful affection all the days of our life.

We thank thee therefore O Lord of heaven & earth, who haſt loaded us continually with thy benefits. They are great, and many more than we can number; both towards our bodies, and towards our ſouls; for the comfort of this life, and our everlaſting Salvation in the life to come. For ever adored be thy love in Chriſt Jeſus, who hath given us an unboubted teſtimony of thy fatherly care and providence over us: and en-

couraged us, though we have offended thee, to address our ſelves to thee, with good hope of thy gracious acceptance of us into friendſhip with thee again.

We love thee, O Lord, above all things. We freely offer our ſpirits, ſouls and bodies to Thee, with moſt ſincere devotion, and the heartieſt affection to thy ſervice. There is nothing we deſire and long for ſo much, as to have a lively ſenſe of thy marvellous love always poſſeſſing our hearts: that may ſtill conſtrain us to love thee, to obey thee, to truſt in thee, to be content with the portion thy love allots unto us, and to rejoyce even in the midſt of all the troubles of this life.

We cannot chuſe, O Lord, when we ſeriouſly think of what thou haſt done for us; but abſolutely commit our ſelves to thee, and entirely confide in thee for the time to come. Since thou haſt not

Rom. 8. 32. *ſpared thy own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how ſhalt thou not with him alſo freely give us all things?*

We depend upon thee eſpecially for the grace of thy Holy Spirit; for the power of which in our Hearts exciting theſe holy deſires and godly reſolutions, we moſt humbly thank thy Divine Majeſty. O that we may feel it perpetually bearing us up by the ſtrength of our moſt holy faith, and by the power of love and hope, above all the temptations which at any time aſſault us. That we may keep our ſelves unſpotted from the world; and no appetite of pleaſure, of glory, or of riches may ever carry us from our duty: but we may ſtill cleave to thee in Righteouſneſs, Purity, Humility, Charity, and all other Divine Virtues, of which our Lord hath given us ſo great an Example.

For his ſake we hope for a favourable acceptance of theſe our praiſes, acknowledgments and prayers. For we muſt be ſtill beholden to thine infinite

infinite goodneſs, for the leaſt regard to any thing that we can do, who are but unprofitable ſervants. And we wait upon the ſame goodneſs for thy bleſſing to accompany us all this day; that we may do nothing, but what we know is pleaſing to thee, and may be ſo proſpered, protected and aſſiſted by thine Almighty power, that we may return with our hearts full of love and thankfulneſs to Thee in the Evening, again to praiſe and magnifie thy continued kindneſs to us.

Unto which we commend moſt heartily the reſt of mankind: deſiring that they may all know thee, the true God, and Jeſus Chriſt whom thou haſt ſent; whom to know is eternal life. And O that all Chriſtians would walk worthy of thy high and heavenly Calling: that others ſeeing their good works, may be invited thereby to acknowledge and glorifie thee our heavenly Father. More particularly we deſire ſuch an encreaſe of Wiſdom and Goodneſs, to all Chriſtian Kings and Princes, that all their Subjects may praiſe thee for the ſenſible fruits of their care and good Government: and ſuch a plentiful portion of the Spirit of thy Grace to all Chriſtian Biſhops, Prieſts, and Deacons; that they may be eminent inſtruments of thy honour, and their people's good, by the authority of their Doctrine and their godly Example. Make our Sovereign and us all happy in each other; by the faithful diſcharge of our ſeveral duties, in the places wherein thy moſt high wiſdom hath ſet us.

And we deſire the comfort of thoſe that mourn, the eaſe of thoſe that are in pain, the health of the ſick, the releaſe of poor Priſoners and Captives, the quiet and ſatisfaction of thoſe that are in trouble and anguiſh of mind, and the true content of all men in whatſoever condition they are;

that we may be all continually giving thanks to thee, the Father of mercies, for *the joy thou hast set before us*, and the hope we have, by running our Christian race with patience, to come to that blessed place into which *Jesus, our forerunner is already entered for us.* By whome we continue to desire, in his own words, that thou mayest be glorified every where, in our well doing; saying as he hath taught us,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

O Lord, the Almighty Creator and Governour of the World, *How great and manifold are thy works! in wisdome hast thou made them all. The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the Sun.* We thy creatures, a small part of mankind, prostrate our selves before thee this evening, in the humblest adoration of thy Divine Majesty, praising thy incomprehensible perfections, and rendring Thee our thanks for all the benefits thou hast bestowed on the whole world, especially on us whom thou hast called to the knowledge of thy grace in Christ Jesus. It is a marvellous love wherewith thou hast loved us. Thou hast not dealt so with all People: and as for thy great and precious promises they have not known them.

Psal. 104. 24.

Psal. 74. 16.

We are bound therefore more particularly to offer up unto thee continually spiritual sacrifice by Christ Jesus; and to laud and bless thy great and glorious Name in the behalf of our selves, and the rest of mankind: among whom thou hast left us numera-

numerable teſtimonies of thy careful providence, in that *thou doſt them good, and giveſt them Rain from Heaven, and fruitful ſeaſons, filling their hearts with food and gladneſs.* Acts 14. 17. We praiſe thee, we bleſs thee, we magnifie and extol thy wiſe and powerful goodneſs, we thank thee for thy never ceaſing bounty towards us; eſpecially that thou haſt vouchſafed to ſend Jeſus Chriſt to reſtore us by his appearing among us, and his humbling himſelf to the death for us, and his glorious Reſurrection from the Grave and Aſcenſion on high, to a bleſſed hope of thy mercy unto eternal life.

We can do no leſs than devote our ſelves, ſouls and bodies, eternally to thee: returning, what we have received from thee, back again with the greateſt love, and moſt grateful acknowlegdments. Accept, we pray thee, O moſt gracious and merciful Father, of this ſmall oblation we make thee, of our moſt hearty and unfeigned reſolutions to worſhip and ſerve thee, in the conſtant exerciſe of righteouſneſs, mercy, meekneſs, patience, humility and purity, with whatſoever is lovely and of good report. And we humbly beg thy holy Spirit may conſtantly accompany us; enabling us to think of theſe things, to cleave unto them, to delight in them, and to perſevere in a free and willing performance of all our duty towards thee, and towards all Men, to our lives end.

And we moſt heartily deſire the reſt of mankind may at laſt be ſo happy as to come acquainted with the exceeding riches of thy grace in Chriſt. O that *thy way may be known upon earth, and thy ſaving health among all Nations: that all the Gentiles may rejoyce with thy People,* Pſal. 67. 2. Rom. 15. 10. 6. *and we may with one mind and one mouth glorifie thee our God, even the Father of our*

Lord

Lord Jesus Christ. O that all Idolatry and ungodli-
neſs, all cruelty and filthineſs, all rapine and vio-
lence, may be aboliſhed and rooted out of the
earth; and true piety, righteouſneſs, holineſs, and
brotherly kindneſs may flouriſh in the room there-
of. For which end we beſeech thee endue all Kings
and Princes, eſpecially thoſe that are Chriſtian,
with a great ſenſe of thy Sovereign Authority o-
ver all; that they may humbly obey thee, as the
deſire others ſhould obey them; and govern a
their People with great wiſdom, uprightneſs, an
a tender compaſſionate care of their welfare. (
that no covetouſneſs, ambition, or revenge m
rule in any hearts, provoking them to war an
blood-ſhed: but there may be great peace in
Lands, by obſerving the holy Laws of the Prin
of peace, Chriſt Jeſus.

More particularly we recommend unto thy ble
ſing, theſe Kingdoms wherein we live: beſeec
ing thee to be merciful to our ſins, in giving
grace to repent of them, and to bring forth fru
meet for repentance and amendment of life. Bl
our Sovereign, and all that are employed und
him, either in Spiritual or Civil affairs, with
thoſe graces which are neceſſary for the rig
diſcharge of their duties in ſuch high plac
Proſper all their pious endeavours for the go
either of mens ſouls, or outward eſtates; th
true Religion and Vertue encreaſing, and all u
godlineſs and vice being put to ſhame, we m
become a renowned Nation, and a praiſe in t
Earth. We commend to thee alſo, O Father
mercies, all thoſe who are in a diſtreſſed a
ſorrowful condition: moſt earneſtly deſiri
their ſeaſonable relief and comfort; wi
their releaſe from thoſe troubles, when th
pleaſeſt.

And now that we are going to lay down our ſelves to ſleep, we put our ſelves and our habitations, with all that belong unto us, into thy moſt gracious protection: hoping thou wilt take care of us, when we cannot ſo much as think how to ſecure our ſelves from any danger that may approach us. Thou haſt been our Helper, Keeper, and Defender, therefore under the ſhadow of thy Wings will we ſtill rejoyce.

When we cloſe our Eyes, let theſe holy thoughts of thee, and affections towards thee, ſtill remain in us, and poſſeſs our hearts; that they may awake again with us in the morning, and ſend up our ſouls in renewed love, and thanks, and praiſe to thy Divine Majeſty by our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe words we continue to implore thy mercies toward us.

Our Father which art in Heaven, hollowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

Prayers for Families.

Saturday Morning.

O Lord all thy works praiſe thee, and declare the greatneſs of thy Majeſty, Power, Wiſdom and Bounty which ſurpaſs all underſtanding,

Thou

Thou art good unto all, and thy tender mercies are ove all thy works. Thou art holy in all thy ways, and righ teous in all thy doings: and keepeſt truth for ever Thy Kingdom is an everlaſting Kingdom, and thy dom nion endureth throughout all generations. We all decay and periſh; the heavens themſelves wax old like garment: but thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhal have no end.

We adore thee, O Lord moſt high, and moſt wil lingly joyn our hearts and voices this Morning, toge ther with all the hoſt of heaven and earth, to lau and praiſe thy glorious Name; and give thanks unt thee, whoſe mercy endureth for ever. We think ou ſelves happy that we know thee; and that we live un der the care and providence of thine Almighty an moſt wiſe goodneſs; and that we have a good hope not only of thy bleſſing and favour here, but of lif for evermore.

Bleſſed be thy Name for ſending thy Son Jeſus, t give us theſe hopes, by his Death, and Reſurrection and Aſcenſion to Heaven, and the coming of th Holy Ghoſt. Bleſſed be thy Name who haſt trained us up in his Religion, and given us the means and opportunities to know that love of thine which paſ ſes knowledge. We thank thee for all the bleſſed ope rations and motions of thy holy Spirit in our hearts and that thou haſt ſo early enclined us to fear thee and love thee, and place our contentment and ſatis faction in thy love and favour, which is better tha life it ſelf. And that thou haſt alſo added a numbe of other mercies, for our comfortable ſubſiſtence i this World: having granted us ſo long health, peac and plenty; a great many friends, loving relation and acquaintance; and continued the enjoymen of them to this day, though we be ſo unwor thy of the leaſt of thy favours. We thank thee, O God, that now thou haſt graciouſly renewed

thy

thy kindneſs unto us, in protecting us the laſt night from all the powers of darkneſs, and every evil accident; and raiſing us up this morning in health and ſafety to praiſe thy goodneſs.

More eſpecially we praiſe thee for any ſenſe we have of theſe thy mercies: humbly waiting on thee for the increaſe of it, and for thy gracious pardon of all our unthankfulneſs and undutiful behaviour towards thee; which we moſt heartily bewail, and deſire, and will endeavour to amend. And for that end we implore the help of thy holy Spirit, which our Lord hath encouraged us to ask of thee; and told us thou wilt not deny to thoſe that earneſtly ſeek it, and continue to knock importunately at the gate of Mercy for it. We believe all his promiſes to be faithful and true; and therefore humbly depend on thy mighty Power to ſtrengthen and enable us to do our duty towards thee, and towards all men; with care, and diligence, and zeal, and perſeverance to the end. Endue us, good Lord, with a ſpirit of true and fervent devotion, to thee our Creator and Redeemer: with upright, juſt and charitable hearts to all our Neighbours: and with temperate, contented and humble minds, in every condition and ſtate of Life, unto which thou ſhalt pleaſe to call us.

Help us to be meek and gentle in our converſation; prudent and diſcreet in ordering all our affairs; good and uſeful in every relation; obſervant of thy fatherly providence in every thing that befalls us; grateful for thy benefits; patient under thy chaſtiſements; and readily diſpoſed to every good word and work. Preſerve in us a conſtant remembrance of thine all-ſeeing eye; of the many Promiſes and Vows we have made of fidelity to thee; of thine ineſtimable love in Chriſt Jeſus, whereof thou haſt given us ſo many pledges; and of the great

great account we must give to him, the Judg of all, at the day of his appearing: That so we may continue *stedfast and unmoveable, and be abundant in the work of the Lord; knowing that our labour shall not be in vain in the Lord.*

Deliver us, we beseech thee, from all inordinate cares and desires; from vain hopes and causless fears; and so dispose our hearts, that death it self may not be dreadful to us: but we may welcome it with a chearful countenance, when and howsoever it shall approach.

O that our hearts may be so firmly setled and e. stablished in the true Religion, and our minds kept so free from all delusions, that nothing may affright us, or shake our constancy: But we may rather chuse to die, than dishonour our Saviour who died for us. We resign our selves to thy wisdom and goodness, who knowest what is best for us: hoping thou wilt *never suffer us to be tempted above what we are able,* 1 Cor. 10. 13. *wilt with the temptation also make a way to escape, that we may be able to bear it.*

We commend unto thee, likewise, all mankind especially thy Church and chosen people: The Kingdoms more particularly, of which we are members; that we may be all faithful to our Lord Christ, and zealous of good works. Bless our Sovereign, his Counsellors, his Ministers, and all employed in publick business, whether Spiritual or Civil; that they may be conscientiously industrious and whatsoever they do may prosper for the good of all those who are committed to their charge. Be gracious to all our friends, and those who are dear unto us. Keep us all in thy fear and love, and obedience while we live; and make us willing to die, and to be with Christ, which is best of all. Guide us, Good Lord, and govern us by the same spir

ſpirit of Wiſdom and goodneſs, that we may be ſo united to thee here, as not to be eternally ſeparated, when thou art pleaſed to order our departure hence: But that we all at laſt may have an happy meeting in the other and better world; to dwell with thee in love and joy, that ſhall never die, through Chriſt Jeſus our bleſſed Lord and Saviour, in whoſe words we ſtill beſeech thee to hear us.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALL honour and glory, thanks and praiſe, love and ſervice be rendered by us and all other reaſonable Creatures to thy great and glorious Majeſty, O Lord; who haſt brought us into the world; and preſerved our life moſt tenderly to this moment; and made it eaſie and comfortable to us by more mercies than we can number. And to all the former haſt added thoſe of this day, which we have paſſed in peace, and health, and ſafety; bleſſed be thy never-ceaſing goodneſs. Above all we acknowledge thy unconceiveable love in Chriſt Jeſus, by whom thou haſt made a gracious proviſion for our Souls, and their everlaſting happineſs in the other world: Having ſent him to us with the promiſes of eternal life; and to be the Way and Director to it; and given him to die, that he might ſeal his promiſes with his bloud; and raiſed him again from the dead, that our faith and hope might be in thee, O God.

Eye had not ſeen, nor Ear heard, neither did it enter into the heart of man the things which thou haſt prepared for them that love thee. 1 Cor. 2. 9.

We love thee, O Lord, and give

our

our ſelves, both ſouls and bodies to thee: moſt ear-
neſtly deſiring to be inſpired with ſuch a ſenſe of th
infinite goodneſs, that we may love thee more
and ſerve thee better; with all our heart, and wi
all our ſoul, and with all our ſtrength.

We confeſs we have not walked worthy of th
great benefits we have received; and therefor
may juſtly fear thou ſhouldeſt with-hold th
tender mercies, and ſhut up thy loving kindne
in diſpleaſure. But the deſires and holy reſolu
ons thou haſt wrought and continueſt in our Sou
to amend and become ſtill more fruitful in all go
works, encourage us to hope in thee for pard
through the bloud of Jeſus Chriſt; and for t
aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit, to enable us to
compliſh that which we intend and purpoſe,
grow more and more in wiſdom and knowle
and in righteouſneſs and true holineſs.

O that this Image of thine may appear e
day fairer and more beautiful before thee, an
the ſight of all men! That ſo we may adorn
Religion we profeſs; and be a good Exampl
to others; and have a ſolid foundation of p
and comfort in our own hearts; and be able to
in thee for thy future mercy in Chriſt Jeſus,
unto eternal life.

We commend our ſelves to thy wonted gra
and in a ſenſe of what thou haſt done alr
for us, and what thou haſt promiſed to do,
pend on thy goodneſs for what thou ſeeſt pro
ble and conducing to our chiefeſt good: reſe
our ſelves wholly to thy wiſe will and plea
and reſolved contentedly to ſubmit to thy app
ments, thankfully to receive thy mercies, and t
ſatisfied with our portion, whatſoever it be that
ordereſt for us. Make us but ſtedfaſt in thy faith
love, unwearied in well doing, patient and con

under all sufferings, full of a lively hope in thy mercy, and willing to die when and as thou pleasest; and we have enough.

In confidence that thou heareſt us, and art every where, and never ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt; we commit our ſelves to the cuſtody of thy watchful providence this night: to be ſecured and protected by thee, when we cannot at all attend to our own preſervation. May it pleaſe thy goodneſs to give this whole family a comfortable reſt and repoſe; to defend this habitation, and all about us from fire and ſuch like ſad accidents; to deliver us from the power of evil ſpirits, and of evil men; and to raiſe us in health and chearfulneſs to praiſe thee, and to glorifie thee, both in Soul and Body the next day.

Then will we ſing of thy power, yea, we will ſing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: *becauſe thou haſt been our defence, and our refuge at all times. Unto thee, O our ſtrength, will we ſing; for God is our defence, and the God of our mercy. We will praiſe the Lord with our whole heart, in the aſſembly of the upright, and in the Congregation. For it is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to ſing praiſes unto thy Name, O moſt High: to ſhew forth thy loving kindneſs in the morning, and thy faithfulneſs every night.* Pſ. 56.16,17. Pſal. 111. 1. Pſal. 92. 1, 2.

The earth is thine, and the fulneſs thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. Let all the people praiſe thee, O God; let all the people praiſe thee. O that all the ends of the world would remember and turn unto the Lord; and all the kindreds of the Nations worſhip before him. For the kingdom is the Lords; and he is the Governour among the Nations. Pſal. 24. 1. Pſ. 22. 27, 28.

Bleſs eſpecially all Chriſtian Kings and Princes; that it

it may *be an abomination to them* t
Prov. 16. 12. *commit wickedneſs; and their throne may be eſtabliſhed by righteouſneſs.* An
encline the hearts of all thoſe who have any auth
rity in theſe Kingdoms to love and hold faſt thy tr
Religion, and to live according to it; that *by me*
cy and truth the King may be preſerve
Prov. 20. 28. *and his Throne be upholden by mer*
29. 14. *Let him faithfully judge the poor, th*
his throne may be eſtabliſhed for ever

We heartily deſire the eaſe, peace, and ſatisfa
on of all thoſe who are in pain, trouble and pe
plexity: and that all poor miſerable people m
find ſupply of their wants from thy bounty, a
the charity of thoſe on whom thou haſt beſtow
plenty and abundance. We humbly alſo w
for thy bleſſing upon all our Relations and Friend
truſting in thee for ſuch a meaſure of health a
all other good things as thou judgeſt uſeful for
and eſpecially that the Lord Jeſus
1 Tim. 4. 8. *deliver us from every evil work,*
preſerve us to his heavenly kingdo
To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

A ſhorter Morning Prayer for any Day in the We
when there is not time, by reaſon of ſome extraordi
ry occaſions, for the other.

O Moſt great and glorious God, the Sover
of the World: Upon whom we continua
depend; to whom we owe all the love, the ſervi
and the praiſe that we are able to render to all
ternity. We adore thy infinite mercy, fr
whence we have received ſo many bleſſings

the comfort of this life; and by which we have a ſure Hope of good things, in the life to come. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which hath not ſuffered us to wander without inſtruction, after the fooliſh deſires of our own hearts: but hath clearly ſhown us where our happineſs lies. We receive with all thankfulneſs thoſe holy words, which teach us the bleſſedneſs of poverty and contentedneſs of ſpirit; of meekneſs and humility of mind; of hungering and thirſting after righteouſneſs; of mercifulneſs and purity of heart; of peaceableneſs, and patient ſuffering for doing the will of our Lord Chriſt.

O that we may have grace to labour always to be in the number of thoſe bleſſed Souls, that never ſet their hearts on any thing ſo much, as theſe heavenly vertues! O that we may ever think and feel our ſelves happy in the comfort of thoſe great and precious promiſes, of being made the children of the higheſt, the Heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven, and at laſt of ſeeing thee our God. It ſuffices, O Lord, that we have theſe glorious hopes hereafter: which make us believe, thou wilt not let us want what is neceſſary for us, whilſt we continue here. We commend our ſelves, with an humble confidence, to thy watchful providence this day: beſeeching thee to guide and aſſiſt us, that in all our deſires, words and actions, we may keep our ſelves innocent, and undefiled before thee; and be diſpoſed to do all good, as we have opportunity.

And we heartily deſire that all mankind may be filled with the ſame devotion to thee: and eſpecially that all Chriſtian people may glorifie thy Name, and be joyful in thee. And the greater any are in Dignity and Power, raiſe their ſpirits to the greater pitch of Wiſdom, Mercy and Piety: That they

they may right thoſe that ſuffer wrong; and de
fend thoſe that have no helper; and provide f
the eaſe and comfort of all miſerable creature
to the utmoſt of their power. In this ardo
charity we commit both ſouls and bodies to the
beſeeching thee to increaſe our love to thee, a
to all men, till we be fit to be tranſlated
the region of love and joy, and perfect ſatis
ction, through Chriſt Jeſus: who hath taught
when we pray, to ſay

Our Father, &c.

Another ſhort Prayer for the Morning.

O Bleſſed God; be thou acknowledged, pr
and loved by us, and all the Childre
men; on whom thou poureſt continually
benefits. They are great and many: we k
not the ſumm, nor underſtand the valu
them. The Angels themſelves admired thy
to us in Chriſt Jeſus; and are become m
ſtring Spirits to them, who are Heirs of Sa
tion. We enjoy the continual fruits of thy wa
ful providence; by which we have been kep
peace and ſafety the laſt night, and are raiſed
morning in health and ſtrength, both of body
mind; beholding all things belonging to us juſt a
left them with thee, when we went to ſleep.

Accept, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, of
poor tribute of praiſe and thanks; together with
hearty oblation of our Souls and Bodies, w
we here dedicate again to thy ſervice. Vouchſa
the continued aſſiſtance of the grace of thy
Spirit; to enable us to make good thoſe V

that are upon us, *of obediently keeping thy holy will and commandments, and walking in the ſame all the days of our life.* Pardon, good Lord, all our breaches of this Sacred Covenant. Deal not with us according to our ſins, neither reward us after our iniquities: But in the multitude of thy tender mercies pity our errors and wandrings; and help us againſt our infirmities.

Give us leave this day to put our ſelves into thy powerful protection, and to depend on thee for thy merciful guidance and aſſiſtance; that we may be more faithful to thee in the diſcharge of our duties, and never ſwerve from the rules of Sobriety, Righteouſneſs, Charity and Godlineſs. So ſhall we return with joyful hearts to praiſe thee in the Evening: and teach thoſe who ſh ll come after us, to continue thy praiſes in the next generation. *Amen,* for thy mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe words we preſent the earneſt deſires of our hearts, for our ſelves, and all our Brethren; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

A ſhort Prayer for the Evening, when there is not time for the longer.

O God; we thy creatures, who have taſted liberally of thy bounty many ways, and been bleſſed in our ſeveral employments, and mercifully preſerved from ſeveral dangers this day, are here met to joyn together, in moſt hearty thankſgivings to thy Divine Majeſty; which with one accord we offer up unto thee. It is the greateſt happineſs of all, we acknowledge, that we have any ſenſe of thee in our minds; any love to thee in our hearts;

hearts; any remembrance of thy benefits; any holy diſpoſitions to obey thee; and any hopes that thou wilt pardon our ſins, and make us partakers of eternal life.

All that we deſire of thee, O Lord, is the continuance and encreaſe of this happineſs: that we may be poſſeſſed with a ſtronger ſenſe of thy Majeſty, thy Sovereign Power, thy unſearchable Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; and be filled with a more ardent love to thee, and to all righteouſneſs; and delight to do thy Will in every thing, and rejoyce in hope of thy immortal Glory. As for the things of this life, in a grateful remembrance of thy many paſt mercies, we entirely truſt thee for the time to come: referring our ſelves to thy Wiſdom: and reſolving to be content with that proportion which thy good providence is pleaſed to aſſign us. Help us but to be ſtedfaſt and unmoveable in the work of the Lord, to bring forth all the fruits of the Spirit, *love, joy, peace, long-ſuffering, gentleneſs, goodneſs, faith, meekneſs and temperance*; and we ſhall think our ſelves rich enough, and well provided for in every ſtate and condition of life.

In theſe holy thoughts and deſires we commend our ſelves to thy gracious protection this night, hoping to find them freſh and lively in our ſouls when we awake in the Morning: and deſiring with all the happineſs of the reſt of the world, that they may know thee, and acknowledge thee, and be guided unto, and walk in the way that leads to everlaſting life through Chriſt Jeſus our bleſſed Redeemer. In whoſe powerful name, and compriſive words, we continue to pray as he hath taught us; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

And

Another for the Evening.

IN an humble and thankful ſenſe, O Lord of heaven and earth, of our entire dependence on thee, and of the duty we owe thee, and the many promiſes and vows wherein we ſtand engaged to thee, we fall down before thee, this Evening, and with all reverence worſhip thy divine Majeſty: Giving thee the glory that is due unto thy Name, and acknowledging thy multiplied mercies to us, particularly thoſe of this day, to the concluſion of which thou haſt now ſafely brought us, with new reſolutions in our hearts to continue for ever in thy faith, and fear, and love, and obedience.

It is but juſt and reaſonable, and we feel likewiſe, by dayly experience, that it is our happineſs, to keep thy Commandments; and to maintain chearful thoughts of thee, and an hearty friendſhip with thee, by complying in all things with thy Holy Will. O pardon our folly, moſt gracious God, in forſaking at any time that perfect Rule, to follow our own unruly deſires. Pardon us we beſeech thee, for we know not how to pardon our ſelves ſuch ingratitude to thee, and cruelty to our ſelves. It is the grief of our hearts, that we have in the leaſt offended thee; and our moſt earneſt, unfeigned deſire to be preſerved hereafter in an exact conformity to our Rule in every thing. Yea, we would delight to do thy will, O God, and take ſuch a pleaſure in all the acts of righteouſneſs, mercy, meekneſs, and gentleneſs to our Neighbours; and in praiſing and acknowledging thee the God of all grace; and in living in an humble ſenſe of thy bounty and our own undeſervings, and in a temperate and thankful uſe of all thy bleſſings; that we may have the continual feaſt of a good

conſcience, and the conſtant comfort and ſatisfaction of having thee always for our friend, and our gracious Father in Chriſt Jeſus.

O thou who art the Inſpirer of ſuch holy counſels, deſires and purpoſes, keep them for ever in our hearts. Encourage, ſtrengthen and increaſe them; that after the refreſhment of a quiet ſleep this night, we may feel them lively and powerful in the Morning: and with renewed joy we may ſtill devote our ſelves to thy faithful ſervice. O that our friends, and all thy people in every place, may partake of the ſame mercies we deſire for ourſelves: and howſoever we are ſevered one from another in this world, grant us an happy meeting at the day of our Lord, in whoſe words we pray thee to hear us.

Our Father, &c.

Prayers for particular Perſons.

A Prayer for the Morning to be ſaid by any Perſon alone.

O Moſt holy, bleſſed and glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth. Who art before all things, becauſe they all received their being from thee; and who art of thy ſelf, infinite in all perfections. Before thee, who art ſo great and incomprehenſible, I moſt humbly proſtrate my ſelf this Morning; rejoycing in this happy liberty which thou vouchſafeſt me, of retiring my thoughts a little from this world to look up unto thee, the Father of my being.

I adore and praiſe thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs. I heartily acknowledge the duty, which I owe thee, both as I am thy creature, and as I am a Chriſtian. I bewail all my neglects of it, my backwardneſs unto it, or coldneſs in it. I intreat thy gracious pardon, and engage my ſelf, for the time to come, more heartily and firmly to thy obedience: beſeeching the grace of thy holy Spirit to enable me to perform all thoſe engagements which are upon me. And bleſſed be thy fatherly goodneſs, which hath ſo often prevented me with that grace. I owe to it all the good thoughts and inclinations that are in my heart; all thoſe motions that I feel in my ſoul towards thee, as my chiefeſt good; with all the effects and fruits of them in my life and actions: which encourage me to hope in thee for the conſtant help of it, to further me in well-doing unto the end.

O thou who haſt ſent thy Son from Heaven to dwell among us, who haſt not ſpared his Life, but given him up for us all, who haſt raiſed him from the dead, and made him heir of all things, who haſt given him all power in Heaven and Earth, that he may bleſs us and do us good; deny not the deſires of a ſoul, that offers up it ſelf entirely in ſincere affection to thy ſervice. But aſſiſt me ſo mightily from above, that I may make thee my conſtant acknowledgments likewiſe, for the ſenſible fruits of his Life, Death, Reſurrection, and Exaltation produced in my heart: growing more and more in all Wiſdome, Righteouſneſs, Purity, Humility, Goodneſs, and every other Divine Virtue. For which end preſerve me always in ſuch a ſerious temper of mind, that the ſenſe of my duty to thee, may make me always ready and forward to it; and the ſenſe of my weakneſs, may make me watchful and

diligent; and the ſenſe of my former negligence excite me to be fervent in ſpirit; and the goodneſ of thy commands may render me more fruitfu and abundant in the work of our Lord; and th great danger I have eſcaped, and the bleſſed neſs before me, may provoke me to perſever moſt patiently in all well-doing, with joy an thankfulneſs. So that I may be like to Chri Jeſus my gracious Lord and Maſter, and do hi honour here in this World, and walk worthy o the great priviledges he hath beſtowed on me, an make grateful returns for all the vaſt receipts I have had from thy moſt bounteous mercy. O th all my acknowledgements, and pious affections ma be turned into actions of holineſs and piety; an all my actions may be ſpirited with zeal; and m my zeal be regulated with prudence; and my pr dence be void of all guile, and joyned with pe fect integrity of heart: that adorning my m holy faith and profeſſion by a religious, upright charitable and diſcreet converſation whilſt I here, I may receive approbation and praiſe the day of the Lord Jeſus; and be numbered mong thy Saints in glory everlaſting.

This, O Lord, is the ſum of all my deſires. I poſe me, by every thing that befalls me, for et nal life, and it ſufficeth. I wholly leave my co cerns in this life to the wiſdom of thy goodne that thou mayeſt order what thou judgeſt to be b reſt for me. I truſt thee with my ſelf, and all I hav hoping thou wilt preſerve me from all things hurtf and lead me to all things profitable for my ſalvati

The like I wiſh to all the world; that unbelie may be tranſlated out of the kingdom of darkn into the Kingdom of thy dear Son; and they who called by the name of Chriſt, may depart from iniquity. Inſpire all Kings and Princes of t

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Earth, eſpecially our Sovereign, with great wiſdom and charity; and make them like to thee, the Lord of all: who art good unto all, and pleaſed in mercy. Endue all our Paſtors and Guides with true knowledge, piety and zeal; and give me, and all Chriſtian people, grace to receive their inſtructions with a meek, humble and obedient heart.

Thou knoweſt the ſorrows, troubles and perplexities of all afflicted perſons; for whom I implore thy compaſſionate relief. Support them with a lively faith and hope in thy precious promiſes; diſpoſe them thereby to a more ſtrict obſervance of thy holy commands; and convert their preſent ſufferings into endleſs joys, when they have brought forth the peaceable fruit of righteouſneſs. And whilſt thou art pleaſed to continue to me that eaſe, plenty and proſperity which I enjoy; fill me with ſuch a ſenſe of thy undeſerved goodneſs, that I may be the more ready to do good to thoſe who are in miſery; and by a ſober and moderate uſe of thy bleſſings, be prepared to endure patiently whatſoever charge thou ſhalt be pleaſed to order for me, into a worſe condition.

Preſerve me all this day in innocence, and in love to thee, and to all men. And ſince in all my ways I acknowledge thee; Prov. 3. 6. do thou direct my paths, and teach Pſal. 112. 5. me to guide my affairs with diſcretion.

Thou art my hope and my confidence; my ſatisfaction and my peace; my glory and my joy; therefore never leave me nor forſake me, but conduct me ſafely by thy counſel through all the buſineſſes and enjoyments, through all the temptations and troubles of this life, to that bleſſed place where our Lord Jeſus liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the ſame ſpirit, world without end, *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer for the Evening.

O Lord, the Creator of the world, and the Redeemer of mankind. Who knoweſt all things, and canſt do what thou pleaſeſt; and will do that which is beſt for thy children; and haſt done us a world of good already; and promiſed to do more for us, if we be obedient, than we can ask or think; and haſt given us the greateſt aſſurance of the truth of thoſe promiſes by thy Son Jeſus; who died for us, and whom thou haſt raiſed from the dead, and given him the promiſe of the Holy Ghoſt, which he hath poured forth abundantly, to ſhed abroad thy love in our hearts. I fall down before thee in the lowlieſt manner, to expreſs my fear and reverence of thy Almighty Power; my admiration of and ſubmiſſion to thy unſearchable wiſdom; my hearty love, and thankful acknowledgment of thy wonderous goodneſs; my truſt and confidence in thy faithful Promiſes; with my readineſs, and ſincere purpoſes to perform all obedience to thy holy Commands.

There is nothing, O Lord, ſo afflictive to me as the remembrance that I have any time offended thy Sovereign Authority. I am heartily ſorry for the breaking of any of thy ſacred, righteous and good Laws. I abhor the thoughts of doing ſo again. And proteſt eternal enmity to all that is contrary to thy bleſſed Will: addicting myſelf with moſt hearty affection to thy true and faithful ſervice. Pardon me therefore moſt gracious and merciful Father, and accept theſe holy reſolutions which thou haſt inſpired me withal. Strengthen, I beſeech thee, and further them with thy continual grace, that no ſudden deſires, vehement inclinations, ineffectual purpoſes, no nor partial performances

may

may deceive and lead me into a false opinion of my self: but I may bring forth actually, and with a constant spirit, all the fruits of righteousness, which are by Christ Jesus to the praise and glory of thee, my God. Possess me with such a deep and strong sense of thy Supreme Authority over all, of the obligations I have to thee, and the great kindness thou hast done me in engaging me to be thy servant; that Religion may be the very business of my life, and my greatest pleasure may be to please thee in every thing, and my highest design to attain that blessed immortality, which Christ Jesus hath promised.

O lift up my affections more and more to those things above, where he is: That Heaven may have my heart, while this world hath my body; and I may have perfect contentment of mind in well doing and patient suffering; and the good hope I have of being eternally beloved of thee, the Lord of heaven and earth, may make me rejoyce evermore. Free me from all inordinate cares for the things of this life; from all distrust of thy good providence; from all repining at any thing that befalls me: and enable me in every thing to give thanks; believing that all things are ordered by the greatest reason, and shall work together for good to those that love thee.

I doubt not of thy Fatherly affection to those that study, in all sincerity, to approve themselves unto Thee: and therefore still resolve to leave my self entirely to thy wise Counsels, that thou mayest dispose me into such a condition as thou seest best for me in this world. Remember me but of my duty; quicken and excite me to it; strengthen me in the doing of it; support me under all discouragements; advise me in all difficult cases; and comfort me with a stedfast belief of thy

Holy Word; and I shall ever be giving thanks and praise unto thee, who dealest so bountifully with me.

Into thy hands I commend this night, both soul and body, which have been mercifully preserved in safety all this day. I repose my self in the belief of thy watchful providence; and that thou givest thy Angels charge of us, and art about our beds, and about our paths, and spiest out all our thoughts. O continue these holy thoughts and desires in me till I fall asleep: that thou maist have a soul full of love to thee in thy custody; and I may receive the light of the Morning if thou prolongest my life, with new joy in thee, and thankful affection to thee.

I most heartily desire likewise, O merciful God the good of the whole World. Pity the follies of mankind: deliver them from their sins, and from their miseries. Hear the groans of every part of the Creature, that is yet subject to the bondage of corruption, and bring them all into the glorious liberty of thy children. Hear the daily prayers of the Catholick Church. Free her from all foul and dividing errors: Let the truth, as it is in Jesus, prevail, and peace be in all her borders. O that all Christian Kings and Governours, may follow after peace and ensue it. Make thy Ministers the Messengers of peace: and dispose the hearts of all Christians to keep the Unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Enlighten the minds of all Jews, Turks and Infidels with the knowledge of thy Truth. Give repentance unto sinners, and increase of grace and strength to all thy faithful servants. Reduce those that wander out of the way; raise up those who are fallen: confirm and settle those that stand: and grant them a stedfast resolution to persevere in faith, love and obedience. Relieve and

and comfort all thoſe that are in any diſtreſs. Make the earth to bring forth her increaſe in due ſeaſon. And let all honeſt and induſtrious people be ſucceeded and bleſſed in their labours.

Remember all thoſe to whom I am indebted for my birth, education, inſtruction or proportion: Thou who art rich in mercy, reward and recompence their care and love. Grant forgiveneſs and charity to all my enemies. Continue good will among all my kind Neighbours. Support the Sick in faith and patience. Aſſiſt thoſe who are dying and leaving this World. Fit them for a better place; receive the ſouls which thou haſt redeemed with thy Sons moſt precious blood, and ſanctified by the Holy Ghoſt; and give us all a glorious reſurrection and eternal life. *Amen, Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

A ſhorter Prayer to be uſed by any one alone in the Morning.

I Adore thee, O Lord, the Poſſeſſor of Heaven and Earth: who ſurpaſſeſt all our thoughts, and doſt us good beyond all our deſires. There is all reaſon that I ſhould acknowledge thee continually; that I ſhould worſhip, and praiſe, and love, and obey thee, whilſt I have my being. I cannot but witneſs againſt my ſelf, whenſoever I neglect thee; much more when I oppoſe thy moſt high Authority, by doing contrary to thy

Laws. For thy Almighty goodneſs gave me my being; and by that alone have I been maintained and liberally provided for: yea, it hath born with me very patiently in my rebellion, and uſed extraordinary means to make us friends, and ceaſed not its entreaties after many unkind denials; but continues to importune me, till my heart conſent to yield it ſelf entirely to thee. I cannot with-hold my ſelf, O Lord, from thee, when I conſider what thou art, and what thou haſt been to me: ſuch a tender, gracious and compaſſionate Father, as my greateſt affections cannot find words to expreſs. I muſt again ſurrender ſoul and body into thy hands, which have been ſo long, ſo lovingly ſtretched out towards me: reſolving to ſtay with thee and never to depart away from thee.

For the more I know of thee, the more I find that I muſt needs love thee: and the more I love thee, the more I deſire to love thee, and to reſemble thee, and to be beloved of thee. O that I may feel the power of thy love ſo great in my heart that it may govern the reſt of my paſſions and affections: and nothing in the World may tempt me to diſpleaſe thee, but every thing provoke me more to love thee, and delight in thee, and cleave thee. *For whom is there in heaven that I can deſire but thee, or on earth beſides thee? who art the bleſſed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords; who only haſt immortality:* who deſigneſt by thy Son Jeſus to raiſe us ſinful duſt and aſhes, to a kingdom, glory, honour and immortality in the heavens.

I moſt earneſtly beſeech thee that this ſenſe of thee may accompany me whereſoever I go, and whatſoever I do this day. That approving my ſelf to thee in ſuch a godly, ſober, righteous, charitable and prudent behaviour, as may adorn the Goſpel

my Lord and Master Jesus Christ; I may have a greater assurance of thy good will towards me, and an undoubted hope of thy mercy in him to eternal life. In whose most blessed name and words I humbly recommend my self, my friends, and all thy servants to thy infinite charity; saying as he hath taught us.

Our Father, &c.

Another for the Evening.

BLessing, Glory, Honour and Praise be again returned to thee, O Father of mercy, from a most thankful heart; which offers up it self also in holy devotion to thee. Who art my Sovereign Lord, my most loving Saviour, my Deliverer and Benefactor; the Fountain of all the good things I enjoy at present, and the hope of my soul for ever and ever. Blessed be thy renewed kindness to me this day past; both to my self and my relations, to my soul and my body, in my transactions with men, and in the liberty thou allowest me of addresses to thy self. Pardon, Good Lord, whatsoever hath escaped me in thought, word, or deed, contrary to my duty: And accept of those sincere intentions and unfeigned purposes, which were, and I hope shall always be, in my heart to study to approve my self to thee in all well-doing.

It is but just and reasonable that I should follow thy will, and not my own: and in a grateful sense of what I have received from thee, I ought to be moved to employ all the powers of my soul and body for thee. But such is the goodness of thy will, that it

it is for my eaſe and pleaſure, and greateſt happineſs, to be abſolutely led and governed by it. I am ſenſible, O Lord, how much I am indebted to thee for teaching me by Chriſt Jeſus, and alſo ſtrongly obliging me, to exerciſe my ſelf to all godlineſs, purity, righteouſneſs, humility, goodneſs and truth. And accordingly I thank thee, above all things, for his holy inſtructions and example; for the hope thou haſt given us by his blood that thou wilt be ſo merciful to our ſins, as not to deny us the power of thy holy Spirit to enable us to follow him, and obey his commands; and for that exceeding great and precious promiſe which he hath given us of immortal life, to encourage us to follow him willingly and chearfully, even to the death.

O that I may feel a lively and ſtedfaſt faith in thy Word, continually working with great power in my heart; exciting me to an unwearied diligence and zeal, and love, and patient continuance in my duty towards thee, and towards all men. That ſo my hope in thee may grow and increaſe, and I may joyfully expect that hour which ſhall tranſlate me hence to the eternal happineſs of the other world. And during my ſtay here, I commend my ſelf to thy good providence, which hath hitherto been ſo tender of me. I truſt thee wholly with my ſelf, and all belonging to me: and am willing in every thing to be diſpoſed of, as thou ſeeſt good. This night I flee unto thy Almighty protection; hoping thou wilt keep me ſafely, and whether I awake in this or the other life, I ſhall ſtill be praiſing thee; whoſe mercy endureth for ever, *Amen*; for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake, by whom thou haſt encouraged me to hope in thee, and taught me to call thee Father; ſaying,

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name: Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

That

THat time which is wont to be spen in the Church, in talking or look ing about, before Divine Service begin may be better imployed in private Pray er, to dispose us to joyn with greater ser ousness in the Publick. And indeed ou business being there with God alone, an that place being separated to his servi only; the custom which now universal prevails, of entertaining discourse o with another, is very undecent (say no worse) and ought to be reform We have other times and places en to confer with our Neighbours; a therefore have no temptation to perv the use of this: which is set apart devout intercourse with God, and no else, by speaking to him in Prayer a Praises, and hearing him speak to us his holy Word. It is fit to silence all oth Speech; and therefore here follow so helps for that purpose: which I hope good Christians will endeavour to use imitate it; and not despise this lov admonition.

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PRIVATE PRAYERS IN THE CHURCH.

A ſhort Prayer before Divine Service begins.

BEhold, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, a Soul proſtrate before thee; deſirous to be filled with ſuch an awful ſenſe of thy Divine Majeſty, that no other thing may interpoſe it ſelf, while I am in thy preſence. Fix my inconſtant thoughts in a ſtedfaſt attention to thy moſt Holy Word. Inſpire me with devout affections, when I ſet forth thy praiſe, and render thanks for all thy benefits. And excite in me ſuch fervent deſires for all thoſe things which I ask of thee; that I may feel my ſelf better diſpoſed, by theſe addreſſes to thee, to every Chriſtian duty the reſt of this day; through Chriſt Jeſus our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Another.

IN an humble and thankful ſenſe of thine infinite goodneſs, which honoureth us ſo much as to ſpeak to us, and gives us leave to ſpeak to hee; I bow down my ſelf before thee, O moſt high and

and holy Lord, the Creator of the world, desiring my mind may be possessed with such great thoughts of thee, whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, and who openest thy hand and fillest all things with good, that I may most reverently worship thee; and affectionately acknowledge thy bounty; and set my heart open to receive thy holy Word; and my mouth may praise thee with joyful lips. Silence all other thoughts and desires in me, while I am here in thy presence. And lift up my heart so toward heaven, that I may feel it united to that glorious company above; who perpetually praise thee, and rejoyce in thee, and do thy Commandments hearkening to the voice of thy Word. Which I humbly beg in the name of Christ Jesus, which is ever dear unto thee; and by whom thou hast promised to hear us. *Amen.*

Or those words of the Prophet David (*which you may* Psal. 5. 7. 17. 1. 118. 28. 119 47, 48, *&c.*) *be a little altered in this manner.*

IN the multitude of thy mercy I am come into thy house: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy place. Attend unto my cry, O Lord, and give ear unto my Prayer that goeth not out of feigned lips. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee; thou art my God, and I will exalt thee. And I will delight my self in thy Commandments which I have loved. My hands will I lift up to thy Commandments which I have loved: and I will meditate on thy statutes. Let thy tender mercies come also unto me, O Lord, even thy salvation according to thy Word. Look on me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to

to thoſe that love thy Name. Order my ſteps in thy Word: and let not any inquity have dominion over me. *Amen.*

A longer Prayer in the Church, when there is time for it, before the beginning of Divine Service

I Caſt down my ſelf, O Lord, in an holy fear and humble adoration of thine incomprehenſible Majeſty, who filleſt heaven and earth; but delighteſt to make thy ſelf more peculiarly preſent to thoſe that acknowledge and praiſe thee, and are deſirous to be filled with a conſtant ſenſe of thee, and entire love to thee. Bleſſed be thy infinite goodneſs, which hath encouraged ſuch wretches, as I am, by the declaration of thy good will to us in Chriſt Jeſus, by thy moſt gracious invitations and precious promiſes, and by the long experience I have had of thy kindneſs, to approach unto thee, O Lord moſt High.

I accept moſt thankfully of this *freedom* and liberty *of acceſs with confidence by the faith of Jeſus*; and am here to joyn with the reſt of thy ſervants, in extolling and magnifying thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs; in giving thanks to thee for thy innumerable bleſſings; in hearing thy moſt holy Word; and making our humble ſupplications, for the continuance of thy undeſerved grace and favour towards us. Compoſe mine and every one of our thoughts, to the moſt ſilent admiration of thee: Strike our Spirits with a reverend apprehenſion of the ſurpaſſing greatneſs and glory of thy Majeſty: Raiſe our affections to the higheſt pitch of love and gratitude to thee: bow our wills to the moſt chearful ſubmiſſion to all thy holy Commands: and touch us with an

an unſpeakable joy, when we read and hear thy ex-
ceeding great and precious promiſes.

Vouchſafe, moſt loving Father, the power of th
holy Spirit to attend upon me; to draw my min
from all other things, and to give me ſuch a live
taſte of the pleaſures of thy houſe, as may ma
me ever delight to attend upon thee here, and wa
with thee in every other place, with a perfe
heart. That ſo my own *heart not condemning m*
I may have more and more con-
1 Joh. 3. 21, 22. *dence towards thee, that whatſoev*
I ask I ſhall receive of thee; becau
I keep thy commandments, and do thoſe things wh
are pleaſing in thy ſight. Truly my ſoul waiteth u
thee; from thee cometh my ſalvati
Pſal. 62. 1. *Hear my cry, O God, and attend u*
61. 1. *my prayer*, for the honour of
Lord Jeſus, and the love thou bea
to him; who hath bid us ask, and we ſhall
ceive; ſeek, and we ſhall find; knock and it
be opened unto us. Let it be to thy Servant, I m
ardently beſeech thee, according to his Word. *Am*

Another more large.

O Lord of heaven and earth, who art infinite
incomprehenſible in thy being, eternal in
duration, and unchangeable in thy Nature:
canſt do what thou wilt; and delighteſt in doing
good. By thy Power I and all creatures were m
by thy Wiſdom we are govern'd; by thy G
neſs and Bounty we are provided for; u
thy Sovereign Dominion we live; and
thy Majeſty we owe all reverence, ſervice
faithful obedience. I adore and humbly
ſhip thee. I acknowledge my ſelf bound by
me

merable tyes to fear thee, to love thee, to praiſe thee, and to ſerve thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs that I have any hope thou wilt accept of ſuch a worthleſs thing as my love. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs. I admire at the riches of thy Grace, that thou doſt not reject all the ſervice that I can tender thee. Nay, it is to be aſcribed to this alone, that I am alive to worſhip thee, and have the doors of thy houſe ſtand open to me; and that I have any heart to enter into it, to offer up ſpiritual Sacrifices by Chriſt Jeſus.

O God, I offer thee here my whole ſelf, which is all due to thee, becauſe I received it all from thee: beſeeching thee moſt earneſtly to make me feel that I am not mine own any longer, but thine; by taking off my thoughts and affections from all other things at this preſent, and filling me with ſuch a reverend apprehenſion of thee, ſuch hearty devotion to thee, and heavenly joy in thee; that I may every day offer up my ſelf to thee more holy and more pure, more meek and merciful, more humble and thankful, more chearfully diſpoſed to every good work, and better prepared to bear a part in the praiſes and ſervices of the glorious company above.

Thou knoweſt the weakneſs of our nature, how ſoon our thoughts are tired and apt to ſtart aſide when we direct them towards Heaven: Vouchſafe me therefore the aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit to compoſe my mind to the moſt ſerious, the moſt earneſt, the moſt devout and chearful attention, in all the parts of thy Divine Service. That I may have the livelieſt ſenſe of thy glorious perfections when I praiſe thee; and the moſt delightful remembrance of thy Mercies, when I give thee thanks; and the moſt thirſty deſires to be

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conformed to thy Will, and to feel more and more the influences of thy Grace, when I hear thy holy Word, and present my prayers and supplications before thee.

Accept, O blessed God, of this good will and sincere affection that I have to thy service, though performed with broken and distracted thoughts, and with too great listlessness and dulness of spirit. And help me continually to outgrow this weakness, and to present thee with a heart more quiet, calm and fit to receive thee; more perfect and entire in ardent love to thee and more setled and fixed in thee, as its chiefest joy and happiness. That so all the rest of the actions of my life may be a more constant and even performance of my duty, according to the command and example of my blessed Lord and Master Christ Jesus. In whose name it is that I am bold to approach into thy presence: believing the Power and Authority thou hast given him over all, to bless us, and to do for us exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. By him be glory unto thee, O Father Almighty, in the Church throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

At the conclusion of Divine Service after these words
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, *&c.*

Say, Amen, *with the heartiest and most earnest affection. And add some such words as these.*

BLessed be thy name, O God, for the good hope which thy infinite charity hath given us; by thy great grace in Christ Jesus, and the plentiful communication of the Holy Ghost

O let thy mercy be upon me acording as I hope in thee. Preſerve me alway in thy love, through that abundant grace in thy Son Chriſt, and the powerful preſence of thy holy Spirit working in me mightily, this day and ever.

Or *after* The peace of God which paſſeth all understanding, *&c. you may ſay as the Apoſtle* St. Paul, (2 Theſſ. 3. 16.) *and the* Pſalmiſt 115. 12, 13, 18.

NOw *the Lord of peace himſelf give me peace always, by all means. The Lord be with us all, The Lord hath been mindful of us, he will bleſs us. He will bleſs them that fear him, both ſmall and great. And we will bleſs the Lord from this time forth, and for evermore.* Amen.

A ſhort Prayer for the Lords Day, or any other, to be uſed at home before Morning Service.

O Lord, the Almighty Creator of the world, and the merciful Saviour of Mankind; who art above all our thoughts, and excelleſt the praiſes of the higheſt Angels. *Thou art greatly to be feared in the aſſembly of thy Saints, and to be had in reverence of all thoſe that are about thee.* I moſt humbly deſire leave to joyn my ſelf with all thoſe holy ones, to worſhip thy moſt glorious Majeſty, to expreſs the due ſenſe I have of all thy benefits (by paying thee my moſt thankful acknowledgments for them) to make thee the beſt oblation I am able, and devote my ſelf entirely to thy obedience.

Since thou haſt graciouſly inclined me to go into thy houſe, and there to ſet forth thy praiſe, to declare

clare thy loving kindneſs to reſign my ſelf to thy Will, to recommend my ſelf to thy Wiſdom, to ſubmit to thy Government, to approve the juſtice and goodneſs of all thy Laws, to profeſs that I am thy ſervant, to renounce all thy enemies, and to teſtifie my continued purpoſe to follow thee againſt all the temptations of the World, the Flesh and the Devil: be pleaſed, good Lord, to pardon all my former failings, and at this preſent to accept my holy intentions, and to inſpire me from above that I may chearfully perform all theſe acts of devotion to thy Divine Majeſty.

And vouchſafe more fully to inform me in my duty, to correct and amend what is amiſs in me, to encourage and ſtrengthen my good reſolutions and to aſſiſt me in all well-doing. Fill me with a great love to thee, and to my bleſſed Saviour, to thy holy Word, and to all holy duties; to the Chriſtian people every where, and to all mankind. Perfect me in Wiſdom, in Holineſs, and in Goodneſs. By all thy inſtructions, by all thy mercies, by all thy chaſtiſements, and by all my prayers, praiſes and thankſgivings to thee, the Father of mercies; make me ſuch as thou canſt love, and delight in, and reward at the great day of the Lord Jeſus. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer at home, after we are come from Church; before Dinner.

I Adore thee again, O Lord of Life and Glory, I acknowledge my dependence on Thee. I thank thee for thy mercies, which thou never ceaſeſt to heap upon me. Accept, I beſeech thee, that dedication I have made of ſoul and body with praiſes and thankſgivings, unto thee in public

publick Congregation. Be merciful to all my ſins: and endue me with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, to enable me to preſent my ſelf, when I appear again before thee, a more holy and devout Sacrifice unto thee; ſtedfaſtly reſolved, and chearfully diſpoſed, in every thing to be ordered by thy Will.

For which end be pleaſed to ſettle and root in my heart a ſtronger belief of thy holy Goſpel, and to fix my thoughts and affections upon that unſeen happineſs and bliſs where our Saviour is: That nothing here below may either allure or affright me from my duty, nor ever make me remiſs or negligent in it; but I may be zealous of good works, fervent in ſpirit ſerving my Lord, from whom I expect the reward of an immortal inheritance.

Preſerve in me always a Religious ſenſe of thee. And make me now ſo thankful and ſober a partaker of the refreſhments of my body, that they may not damp the devotion of my ſoul: But I may rather return to worſhip thee with greater chearfulneſs and gladneſs of heart, after thou haſt added the good things of this world, to thoſe of the other; according to thy abundant love in Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer in private before the Evening Service.

O God who art *rich in mercy to all that call upon thee*, and haſt bid us *pray without ceaſing, and rejoyce evermore.* In obedience to thy command, and encouraged by the goodneſs of thy Nature, thy gracious invitations, thy moſt precious promiſes, and the long experience that I and others have had of thy bounty, 1 Theſſ. 5.

I am bold again to approach into thy presence; to renew my requests unto thee, to bless thy holy Name, to make profession of my love to thee, and readiness in all things to obey thee. Quicken my thoughts and affections, O Lord, to a free and joyful attendance on thee in all holy duties: that no dulness nor weariness may seize upon my spirit; but such a fervent love to thee may possess my heart, as may render all the employments of Religion my delight, and the doing thy Will both now and alway my greatest pleasure.

And pass by, I most humbly beseech thee, all my unwilling indispositions. Accept of such service as I am able to render thee. And dispose me by all my addresses to thee, to be more circumspect and watchful, more diligent and industrious, more forward and zealous in the performance of every part of my duty. That being led by thy Counsel, governed by thy Spirit, and preserved by thy gracious Providence, I may at last be admitted into the company of the blessed there to perfect my praises and acknowledgments and to receive the reward of patient continuance in well doing, through Christ Jesus. Whose grace *be with my Spirit.* Amen.

Another after the Evening Service is done, as soon as there is opportunity to retire alone.

I Acknowledge thy manifold blessings, O Lord, which are renewed upon me every moment. I owe my life contiually to thee, with all the comforts of it. If I had no more to thank thee for, but the mercies of this day, they are so many, so great, that I could never thank thee enough for them.

Thou takeſt care of my body, and of my ſoul. Thou feedeſt me at thy houſe, and at my own. Thou letteſt me taſte the bread of Life which came down from Heaven, beſides the many ſupports and refreſhments which thou affordeſt for this natural life. Several of thy creatures loſe their lives to preſerve mine, and thy dear Son hath not thought it too much to lay down his precious life for my ſake. Thou ſpeakeſt to me, and giveſt me leave to ſpeak to thee. Thou inſtructeſt me in my duty, and haſt made thoſe things my duty, which are really my happineſs. Thou engageſt me to do my ſelf good here by promiſing a greater good hereafter.

I praiſe thee; I thank thee; and will be ever ſpeaking good of thee. And it is a new favour that I may thus praiſe and bleſs thee, both in the Aſſemblies of thy people, and in my own Retirements. O give me an heart to delight in it, and in all other duties of a Chriſtian life. That obeying thy holy Goſpel in all things, and being never weary in well-doing, I may find thy unwearied goodneſs extending it ſelf to immortal life and bliſs through Chriſt Jeſus.

O bleſſed Jeſus that thy holy Laws may be more deeply engraven on my heart! O that every truth I have learnt this day, may be ſo faithfully preſerved and kept in mind; as to become the rule of my life, or the ground of my hope, and a powerful motive to univerſal and uniform obedience to the end of my dayes! O that the remainder of my days may be the better for this day: and the holy reſt we obſerve here on earth may be a beginning of the eternal reſt which we wait for at thy ſecond coming. *Amen. Come Lord Jeſus.*

A Prayer upon any Festival in remembrance of our blessed Lord and Saviour to be added to the foregoing Devotions.

O Most glorious God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Father of lights, from whom cometh every good, and every perfect* Jam. 1. 17. *gift; with whom there is no variableness, nor shadow of change.* Thou always wast, and ever wilt be happy without us, or any of the praises that we or any other creatures are able to render unto thee. But it is our duty, our perfection, and high priviledge, constantly to acknowledge thee, with joy and exultation of spirit; in remembrance of thy infinite bounty to us and to all the world.

Every day tells us how good thou art, and every one of thy creatures calls upon us to magnifie thee, and love thee, and serve thee; who hast made so many of them to serve us. But this day gives us occasion to remember thy more special and extraordinary kindness to us the Children of men; which calls for our highest and most exalted praises, to be joyned with those of the blessed company above, who are never weary of giving honour, glory, blessing and thanksgiving to thee; not only in their own behalf, but even for thy goodness to us thy unworthy creatures.

O how great was that love, which an Angel came to give notice of! and which a multitude of an heavenly host celebrated with songs of praise, when thou sentest thy dear Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and in the form of a Servant, to minister to our necessities, to relieve our misery, and to be the way to everlasting life! O the riches of thy grace, that after mankind had forfeited all the rights of thy creatures, and had contemned and despitefully used

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many of thy meſſengers, thou wouldeſt in much mercy create us again unto good works, and for that end appear thy ſelf moſt gloriouſly among us, in the perſon of Jeſus Chriſt.

I thank thee, O Lord, that thou haſt aſſumed our Nature unto ſuch a nearneſs to thee, as we are not able to underſtand. I thank thee for the glad tidings which Jeſus hath brought us from heaven, that thou wilt be reconciled unto us, and admit us again into thy favour: and that he hath fulfilled all righteouſneſs; and ſhown us in our likeneſs what thou art, and what thou wouldeſt have us to be. I thank thee for the redemption which he hath wrought for us by his bloud. And I rejoyce in the victory which he hath got over Hell and the Grave by his Reſurrection from the dead; and in his glorious triumph, when he aſcended up on high, and led captivity captive; and in his royal Power wherewith he was inveſted when he ſate down on the right hand of the Majeſty on high; and in thoſe gifts which he received for men, even for the rebellious alſo, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

Bleſſed be thy eternal goodneſs, which hath made him a moſt merciful and compaſſionate High Prieſt; and given us ſo great aſſurance that he is become the Author of eternal ſalvation unto all them that obey him.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which hath ſent the Holy Ghoſt; and continued to us a ſucceſſion of Paſtors and Teachers, to be the Guides of our Souls, and to miniſter to us thoſe pledges of thy love, which our Saviour hath left us, in the Communion of his Body and Bloud.

O God, that my heart could aſcend up to heaven in theſe devout meditations, and in ardent love to thee, who haſt loved us in ſuch a marvellous manner! O that it might never come down again

to this world, but with desires left in it aspiring towards heaven! Touch my soul so powerfully with a sense of these things, that with an hearty and zealous affection it may ever look towards thee, and towards my dear Lord and Saviour Christ Jesus. O fix mine eyes on him, as he was here on earth, that I may learn of him, his humble and meek obedience to thy commands: and as he is now in heaven, that I may trust him for the performance of his precious promises, and patiently wait till he carry me to that glorious place where he is enthroned.

Since he appeared among us to destroy the works of the Devil, and died to redeem us from all sin, and rose again that he might bless us in turning every one of us from our iniquities, and is made Lord of all that he may govern by his Laws, and reward and punish us according to our works, preserve in my mind, I beseech thee, a constant and lively sense of this great end of his whole undertaking for us: That he may see the fruit of the travel of his Soul in me, and my whole life may be a serious study and endeavour to imitate him, by purifying my self as he is pure.

O that thy fear and love, and an holy joy in thee, may preserve me this day from abusing any of the good things which thou alloweſt me for the refreshment of my body. Give me such a savour and relish of thy Divine Truths revealed to us in the Gospel, that I may not glut my self with any fleshly enjoyments, as if I knew no pleasures more excellent. But raise up my mind by them to better delights: that I may enjoy them with thanksgiving to thee, with bowels of mercy to those who are in need, with a taste of spiritual and heavenly joys, and with hunger and thirst after the fulness and perfection of those joys, when our Lord Jesus

Jesus shall come to show us his glory, and entertain us with eternal satisfaction in his incomprehensible love. *Amen.*

A Prayer on Good-Friday *in the Morning.*

O Most holy and eternally blessed; the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom I am encouraged to come unto thee. And how shall I come, O Lord, but in the lowest prostrations of my soul and body; with mine eyes full of tears, and my heart full of grief and sorrow, because I have been so undutiful to thee, whose grace and mercy hath so exceedingly abounded towards us! When I cast mine eyes upon my Saviour, and upon my self, with the rest of the children of men, I am astonished at the wonderful greatness of thy love, which surpasses the thoughts of Men and Angels.

For what were we that thou shouldest make thy dear Son a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief, for our sake? That he should become poor and mean, not having where to lay his head; and endure likewise cruel mockings and buffettings; and be spit upon and abused; yea, sorely wounded and bruised; and drink that bitter cup, that vile and accursed death of the cross, where he shed his most precious bloud, and gave himself a ransom for us.

O Lord, what was the whole race of mankind worth that thou ſhouldeſt purchaſe them with ſo dear a price? and by the obedience of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus unto the death, grant a pardon for their rebellion? and ſeal a new Covenant of Grace in his blood? and by the ſame blood conſecrate him to be an High Prieſt with royal Power in the heavens, to give repentance and remiſſion of ſin, and all this, ſo freely, that we did not ſo much as deſire it, nor did it enter into the heart of men to conceive, that thou ſhouldſt be ſo gracious to them?

O bleſſed God, how rich is thy goodneſs, that lets us withal enjoy a great plenty of worldly good things; much of that eaſe and pleaſure which was denied our Saviour? and yet we are ſinners, and he had no ſin, neither was guile found in his mouth: yea, we are ungrateful ſinners, ſo far from being ſenſible as we ought of ſuch infinite loving kindneſs; that we may juſtly fear leſt this goodneſs of thine which was deſigned to ſave us, ſhould through our unthankfulneſs and negligence prove the occaſion of our greater ruine.

I moſt heartily bewail, O moſt merciful Father, my ſhameful forgetfulneſs of ſo great benefits, or my cold and dull remembrance of them. I lament all the errors and miſcarriages of my life, which are the more heinous, I acknowledge, after ſuch a plain declaration of thy diſpleaſure againſt ſin, and of thy marvellous love to us ſinners. I am afflicted for the heardneſs and ſtupidity of my heart, which, alas! is oft-times little pierced and wounded when I reflect upon his ſorrow and pain, and anguiſh for the ſake of ſinners: and for the liſtleſneſs and backwardneſs of my will, to give up my ſelf abſolutely to him, who ſo willingly gave himſelf an offering for our ſins. I bluſh to

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remember how weak and ſhort my thoughts have been; how tranſient and ineffectual my paſſion, when I have meditated on his bloody death and ſufferings: And am confounded when I think how ſuddenly I have ſtarted from theſe holy purpoſes and reſolutions, which the ſenſe of his love hath ſometimes begot in my heart.

I cannot but accuſe and condemn my ſelf here in thy preſence: but I likewiſe condemn every ſinful deſire that is ſtill remaining in me, to die and be crucified together with him. I would have nothing contrary to thy Will, to have any power, or live any longer in me: and therefore here yield up my ſelf entirely into thy hands, to be conformed in all things to Chriſt Jeſus who died for me. Fix my thoughts ſo conſtantly upon his dying love, and affect my heart ſo mightily therewith, that I may chearfully undergo any pains to be made like unto him in his humility; in his obedience; in his reſignation of himſelf to thy wiſe will and pleaſure; in his patience; in his meekneſs, in his charity, and forgiveneſs of his enemies; in his willingneſs to quit all things for thy names ſake, and to truſt both ſoul and body with thee, in well doing and contented ſuffering, whatſoever it be that thou requireſt of me.

I deſire not to live, O Lord, but that I may live to him that died for me. I refuſe no reproaches, no poverty, no pain or trouble, if thy will cannot other ways be accompliſhed by me. Do what thou pleaſeſt with me, ſo that I may be but perfected in holineſs, and obtain thy gracious pardon through the redemption that is in Jeſus.

I believe the vertue and power of his Sacrifice to be everlaſting; and that *when he had by himſelf purged our ſins, he ſat down on the right hand of the Majeſty on high*: and therefore I look for the conſtant

assistance of thy good Spirit, which he hath bid me ask in his Name, to enable me to purifie my self, and to tread in the steps of his humble, meek and patient charity; that so I may be presented unblameable, and unreproveable in thy sight at the day of his appearing.

Great is the wisdom of thy love wherein thy grace hath abounded towards us in Christ Jesus! Great are the encouragements which thou hast given us, by his laying down his life for us, that he might take it again and live for evermore! Great is the boldness that we have *to enter into the holiest by the bloud of Jesus; by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us through his flesh*! Give me the grace, I beseech thee, wisely to consider and ponder the merciful design of thy Grace; to walk circumspectly and exactly, as the redeemed of the Lord, as an heir of his love, that hopes to see him in immortal glory. O that the comfort and Joy of this hope, to see Jesus who was so scorned and abused, sitting upon his throne, and triumphing over all his enemies, may so raise and enlarge my mind by the power of it, that I may overlook and despise all the petty temptations of this world: looking still stedfastly unto him, and following him with unmoveable resolution: till I come to possess that which I hope for, and rejoyce eternally in his love. Hear me O Father of Mercies, and deal graciously with me, far beyond all my thoughts and desires, for his sake; who is the Authour and the finisher of our faith, who died once for us, and now lives for ever to make intercession on our behalf: By whom all honour, praise, thanksgiving, love and obedience be rendered to thee by me and by all mankind both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer on Good-Friday *in the Evening.*

O Moſt holy, moſt gracious, the only wiſe God, moſt bleſſed for ever. We cannot conceive the greatneſs of thy perfections, nor is there any thing to which we can compare them. Thy holineſs is more unſpotted than the light of the Sun: Thy goodneſs ſpreads it ſelf more largely than its beams: Thy Wiſdom pierces into thoſe ſecrets which are buried in darkneſs: and though all things alter and wax old, yet thou art the ſame unchangeable being, whoſe years have no end. How ſhall ſuch a vile wretch as I am take the boldneſs to look towards thee, and ſpeak unto thee, who art ſo great, ſo glorious, and dwelleſt in light not to be approached.

Adored be thy wonderful love, who haſt encouraged our approaches to thee, by humbling thy ſelf to look down upon us, and by appearing graciouſly to us in our own fleſh. Bleſſing, Honour, Glory, and Praiſe be eternally aſcribed unto thee, who didſt not abhor us, and utterly caſt us out of thy ſight, when we had turned our backs upon thee; but ſent thy only begotten Son into the world, to call us again unto thee, yea, beſeech us, and oblige us, by laying down his own life for us, to return unto thee and live.

No thought can comprehend the unſearchable riches of thy Grace manifeſted unto us in the Lord Jeſus, who was pleaſed to be vilely entreated, and ſhamefully uſed, to ſuffer the reproach of the Croſs, and to ſhed his deareſt bloud; that we might not ſuffer the pain of eternal death, but be reſtored to the dignity of thy Children, and advanced

to honour, glory and immortality together with him. Thou haſt found out a way to manifeſt thy moſt tenderlove to us, without the leaſt ſuſpicion of approving and loving our ſins; and to preſerve thy Sovereign Authority, without deſtroying thoſe who were in rebellion againſt it. Thou haſt ordered ſuch a chaſtiſement of our iniquities, as might ſave and deliver us, who deſerved to be puniſhed: and ſo diſpoſed the means of our redemption as to pardon and amend us, both at once.

Oh the wiſdom of thy Love, which hath *made him to be ſin for us, who knew no ſin, that*
2 Cor. 5. 21. *we might be made the righteouſneſs of thee our God in him!* O the riches of thy Grace, which hath abounded to us in all wiſdom and prudence! *Healing us by his ſtripes; and condemning ſin in the fleſh by his ſacri-*
1 Pet. 2. 24. *fice for ſin; and making him a curſe*
Rom. 8. 3. *for us, that we might inherit a bleſſing,*
Gal. 3. 14. *and receive the promiſe of the Spirit, through faith in him.* I ſee, O Lord, how infinitely I am indebted to thee. I behold the deſign of thy wiſe goodneſs in *giving him for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity,*
Tit. 2. 14. *and purifie us to himſelf a peculiar people zealous of good works.* I thank thee
1 Pet. 2. with all my ſoul, for *his bearing our ſins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead unto ſin, ſhould live unto righteouſneſs.* There is nothing I can more deſire than by *doing righteouſneſs, to become righteous even*
1 John. 3. *as he is righteous.* Aſſiſt me, I beſeech thee, to attain this end of his death and paſſion, by the power of that holy Spirit which he hath thereby purchaſed for us, and hath likewiſe promiſed to us, and is able to bleſs us withal.

I dread to think that his precious bloud ſhould be loſt and ſpilt in vain for me; that ſo great a price ſhould be caſt away, wherewith thou haſt bought me, to glorifie thee with my body and ſpirit which are thine. O God preſerve in me ſuch a lively ſenſe of his grief and ſorrow, of his pain and anguiſh; that I may bitterly hate the cauſe of all his torments, and look on every ſin, as the moſt fearful curſe that can befal me. Preſerve in me a conſtant ſenſe of the great value of my ſoul, for which he paid ſo dearly: and a great eſteem of that purity, righteouſneſs and goodneſs, for the reſtoring of which he made himſelf of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a ſervant, and was obedient to death, even the death of the Croſs.

And eſpecially raiſe me to a great height of love and gratitude to thee, and of hope and confidence in thy infinite mercies; of which we have ſuch ſtrong aſſurance, by his being *delivered for our offences, and raiſed again for our juſtification.* Rom. 4. 25. Make me more and more in love with that lowlineſs of mind, that tender and compaſſionate charity, that meekneſs, patience and forgiveneſs which ſhone in his ſufferings. And ſubdue my will ſo perfectly; unto ſuch an abſolute, quiet and ready ſubmiſſion to thy holy Will in every thing; that my hope in thee may increaſe exceedingly: *and not only ſo, but I may alſo joy in thee my God, through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom we have now received the atonement.* Rom. 5. 11.

Hear, Good Lord, the prayers of the whole Church, *which thou haſt purchaſed with thine own bloud.* O that every member thereof may ſerve thee purely and orderly in the rank and condition wherein thou haſt placed them, to their mutual benefit and comfort; and to the conviction of thoſe who are enemies

the Name of the Lord Jesus; that they seeing our good works may glorifie thee our heavenly Father; and acknowledge that thou art among us of a Truth. Bless all the Ministers of Religion or Justice: and endue them with a great love to the honour of our Saviour, and with a great zeal to make his holy Laws understood and observed. That as he *gave himself for his Church, that he might sanctifie and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, and present to himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing*: So *all that name the name of Christ may depart from all iniquity*, and endeavour to be *holy and without blemish*, and be found of him in peace at the day of his appearing. And in particular, I beseech thee to replenish our Sovereign with a great measure of the Grace of thy Holy Spirit; that he may make all his Subjects joyful by his pious and prudent care, to promote their wealth, peace and godliness. Let thy Priests also be clothed with righteousness; and all thy Saints shout aloud for joy. *The Lord make them to encrease and abound in love one towards another, and towards all men; to the end he may establish their hearts unblameable in holiness, before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his Saints*, 1 Thess. 3. 12.

Eph. 5. 26, 27.

Now unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own bloud, and hath made us Kings and Priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Rev. 1. 5, 6.

A

PRAYER

ON ANY

SAINT's-DAY.

THou art to be praiſed, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, in all thy works of wonder, which declare the aſtoniſhing greatneſs of thy Majeſty, Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs, throughout the world. One generation praiſes thy works to another, and declares thy mighty acts; eſpecially the manifold wiſdom of thy incomprehenſible love in the ſalvation of mankind by Chriſt Jeſus, who hath brought us the glad tidings of peace and reconciliation with thee, and the promiſe of immortal life and glory, if we will be obedient to thee.

An innumerable company of holy Souls have in all ages ſince moſt thankfully received and acknowledged this thy grace and tender mercy; being obedient to the very death, and leaving us an excellent example of pure love to thee, and conſtant affection and hearty devotion, and ardent zeal for the honour of our Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus. I add my poor tribute of praiſe and thankſgiving to all that hath been rendred unto thee, O God; who in the beginning *commandeſt the light to ſhine out of darkneſs*; *and haſt now ſhone into* the hearts of thy holy ones, to give the light of thy divine knowledge in the face of Jeſus Chriſt.

Thanks be to thy infinite goodneſs as for that glorious manifeſtation of thy ſelf in our fleſh, and the eternal redemption that the Lord Jeſus obtained for us by his blood, and the power and dominion which thou haſt given him at thy right hand after his

Reſurrection

Reſurrection from the dead, and his compaſſionate interceſſion on our behalf: So for all thoſe gifts which he gave unto men; whereby *he made ſome Apoſtles, ſome Prophets, ſome Evangeliſts, ſome Paſtors and Teachers, for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the miniſtry, and the edifying of his body.* Bleſſing, honour, glory and praiſe be to thee, O Father of mercies, for all thoſe great inſtruments of the Holy Ghoſt, the illuſtrious Miniſters of thy grace, the Ambaſſadors for Chriſt, and the bleſſed Champions of his holy Truth, who have communicated the light of thy glorious Goſpel to the world, and overcome the kingdom of darkneſs,

Rev. 12. 11. *by the blood of the Lamb, and the word of their teſtimony, not loving their lives unto the death.*

Adored be the mightineſs of that Grace, which

Pſal. 8. 2. *out of the mouths of babes and ſucklings ordained ſtrength.* Glory be to thee, O

2 Cor. 2. 9. Chriſt, whoſe ſtrength was made perfect in weakneſs. Glory be unto thee, who didſt commit this heavenly *treaſure unto earthen veſſels*; who *approved themſelves the*

2 Cor. 4. 7. *miniſters of God in much patience, in*

2 Cor. 6. 4, 5. *affliction, in neceſſities, in diſtreſſes, in ſtripes, in impriſonments, in toſſings to and fro, in labours, in watchings, in faſtings, that the excellency of the power might be of God and not of men.*

I heartily ſubmit to the power of that Divine Truth, for which *they ſuffered the loſs of*

Phil. 3. 8. *all things, and counted them but dung that they might win Chriſt, and be found in him.* And I rejoyce that thou haſt had ſo many faithful ſervants who have loved thee, O Lord thou lover of ſouls, more than their own lives; moſt earneſtly deſiring to be inſpired with the very ſame

ſpirit

ſpirit which was in them, that I may leave ſome example, though never ſo ſmall, of hearty and univerſal obedience, to thoſe that ſhall come after.

• Accept, good Lord, of my ſincere reſolution to be a *follower of them even as they were of Chriſt, in pureneſs, in knowledge, in long-ſuffering, in kindneſs, in love unfeigned: That my rejoycing may be this, the teſtimony of my conſcience, that in ſimplicity and godly ſincerity, not with fleſhly wiſdom, but by thy grace, I have had my converſation in the world; providing for honeſt things, not only in the ſight of our Lord, but alſo in the ſight of all men.* Make me conſtant and couragious in the profeſſion of thy holy Truth; and to be willing *to paſs through honour or diſhonour, through good report or evil report* for the Lords ſake: hoping that *if the ſufferings of Chriſt abound in me, my conſolation alſo ſhall abound by Chriſt.* 1 Cor. 11. 1. 2 Cor. 6. 6, 7. 2 Cor. 1. 12. 2 Cor. 8. 21. 2 Cor. 1. 5.

Stir me up, I beſeech thee, and quicken me that I may *ſhew the ſame diligence* that thy Saints have done, *to the full aſſurance of hope unto the end; that I may not be ſlothful, but a follower of them who through faith and patience inherited the promiſes. How ſhall I eſcape if I neglect ſo great ſalvation, which at firſt began to be ſpoken by the Lord, and was confirmed by them that heard him, God alſo bearing them witneſs with ſigns and wonders, and with divers Miracles of the holy Ghoſt, according to his own will?* O continue the mighty aſſiſtance of that divine power with me, that behaving my ſelf *ſo holily, juſtly and unblameably* as they did, I may *reſt* at laſt together *with them, when our Lord Jeſus ſhall be revealed from heaven with his mighty Angels, to* Heb. 6. 11, 12. Heb. 2. 3, 4, 5. 1 Theſſ. 2. 10. 2. 1. 7. 9.

be glorified in his Saints, and admired in all them that believe.

And now preserve me this day from dishonouring *that worthy name, whereby we are called*; *knowing how we ought to follow them, who behaved not themselves disorderly among those that believed.* That by this rest from my ordinary labours, I may not learn idleness, nor *grow weary of well doing*; but be better disposed in my mind by all the refreshments of my body, to do my duty in the place and relations wherein thou hast set me, with greater chearfulness, fidelity and diligence to the end of my days. O that it may be my highest pleasure to attend on thee and praise thee in the assemblies of thy Saints. Give me such a sensible delight and joy in reading and meditating of thy holy Word, and in the remembrance of all thy mercies, that nothing in this world may make me forget the sweetness of it: but every thing may excite me more to praise, extol and magnifie thy loving-kindness to me; and to express my thankfulness in a free and ready obedience to thy commands; till I be made fit to be admitted into the company of the blessed, there to praise thee world without end. *Amen.*

James 2. 7.

2 Thes. 3. 7. 13.

A Prayer upon the day of ones Birth.

O Most mighty Lord, the Former and Preserver of all things: All thy works praise thee, and declare thy infinite greatness, wisdom and bounty; and call upon us likewise to magnifie thy Name

Name with our continual praiſes and thankſgivings. I humbly bow my ſelf before thy glorious Majeſty who inhabiteſt eternity; acknowledging that it is but a little time ſince I was not; and that I am not gone down again into ſilence is to be aſcribed only to thy Omnipotent goodneſs, which brought me into being, to praiſe thee among the reſt of thy creatures.

I thank thee. O Lord, by *whom I was fearfully and wonderfully made, and curiouſly wrought in my mothers womb. Thou art he that took me thence; thou didſt make me hope when I was upon my mothers breaſt. By thee I have been holden up ever ſince*; and moſt carefully provided for, when I could not think at all of thy tender mercies towards me. And therefore now that I am grown to the uſe of my reaſon, *my praiſe ought to be continually of thee. O bleſs the Lord, my ſoul, and all that is within me bleſs his holy Name. Bleſs the Lord, O my ſoul, and forget not all his benefits. While I live will I praiſe the Lord: I will ſing praiſes to my God while I have any being.* Pſal. 139. 14, 15. Pſal. 22. 9. Pſal. 71. 6. Pſal. 103. 1, 2. Pſal. 146. 2.

Pardon, I beſeech thee, my ingratitude, in that I have no earlier remembered thee my Creator, *in whom I live and move*; *and who giveſt me all things richly to enjoy*. Accept of my unfeigned reſolutions to preſerve hereafter a more grateful ſenſe of thy great goodneſs to me, and to glorifie thee with my body and with my ſpirit, which are thine. Vouchſafe me the aſſiſtance of thy heavenly grace, that I may return them back unto thee pure and undefiled; full of Wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding; full of love and devout affection to thee; full of all good works and the

fruit

fruits of righteouſneſs, to *which thou*
Eph. 2. 10. *haſt created me again by Chriſt Jeſus, that I ſhould walk in them.*

Bleſſed be thy Name, who haſt ſent him to give me a new and better life. I thank thee for all the helps and comforts of his Religion. O that my heart may be poſſeſſed with ſuch a ſtrong belief of it, and ſuch a ſincere love to it, that I may feel indeed that I am born again, and made a new creature: meditating daily of thy mercies; breathing forth my ſoul to thee, in prayers and praiſes, and thankſgivings; walking in the Spirit of *goodneſs,*
Eph. 5. 9. *righteouſneſs and truth; and proving what is acceptable to our Lord.*

All the thanks and ſervices I acknowledge, that I am able to render to thee, are nothing worth: but the longer I live, I moſt earneſtly deſire the more hearty, and the purer they may be; and the more I may be enabled to do for thy honour and glory. If thou ſuffereſt me to continue in this life another year, O that in the concluſion of it, I may preſent my ſelf unto thee again more improved in all that is praiſe-worthy. The time paſt is too much to have miſ-ſpent; O that I may ſuffer no more of my precious hours to run waſte, but that they may all be taken up, and carefully laid out in well-doing.

Help me diligently to husband ſo great a treaſure, which thou entruſteſt me withal, and to employ it in order to a bleſſed Eternity. Let not *the care of this world, and the deceitfulneſs*
Mark 4. 19. *of riches, and the luſts of other things entring in, choke thoſe good ſeeds* which thou haſt ſown in my heart, ſo that *they become unfruitful*: but enable me as I grow in years to encreaſe alſo in *love, joy, peace, long ſuffering,*
Gal. 5. 21. *faith, meekneſs, temperance,* and all other fruits of thy holy Spirit.

And

And since I have been thy care so long, *I will* still *hope* in thee *continually*, that I shall *yet praise thee more and more. Cast me not off* if I live to the *time of old age, forsake me not when my strength faileth.* O *God, thou hast taught me from my youth, and hitherto I have declared thy wondrous works. Hold me up* still, *and I shall be safe. Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.* That so *if the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when I shall say, I have no pleasure in them*; I may rejoyce in the remembrance of a well-spent life, and having a good hope in thee, *the day of my death, may be better than the day of my birth.*

Psal. 71. 14. Psal. 9. 17. Psal. 119. 117. 133. Eccles. 12. 1. Eccles. 7. 1.

O that death may never surprize me, nor find me unprepared. Help me to walk alway so circumspectly, and to be so mindful of my latter end, that when death comes it may be no stranger to me; but I may entertain it as an acquaintance, and a friend: and with the same chearfulness put off my body, and lay it down in the grave, that I put off my cloaths and lay my self down in my bed. I commit my self entirely to thee, both now and ever; waiting for thy mercy in Christ Jesus, at that great Day, when thou shalt awake us out of the dust. O that I may then be numbered among the just, and stand at the right hand of my Saviour, and hear that joyful voice, *Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the World.* Amen.

Mat. 25. 34.

That

THat we may be ſtedfaſt, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, here follow particular Prayers for that grace; and, in caſe of any failing in our duty, for repentance, and pardon, and for an heart truly ſenſible of the divine goodneſs, and more conſiderate and careful for the time to come.

A

PRAYER

For Reſolution in

WELL DOING.

O Moſt bleſſed God, the fountain of wiſdom, power, ſtrength, and all other perfections: from whoſe bounty I have formerly received, and at preſent enjoy innumerable bleſſings; and have no hope for the future, but what ariſes from the ſame everlaſting ſpring of all good which is never weary of deriving its benefits unto us. I ought in a ſenſe of my entire dependence upon thee, to be very humble; very thankful; exceeding ſolicitous for thy favour, and deſirous of thy good will; ſorrowful for my neglects of thee; aſhamed of the pitiful returns I have made to thee; and moſt peremptorily reſolved, and zealouſly bent to approve my ſelf hereafter to thy Divine Majeſty, in all well-doing

Accordingly I am now proſtrate before thee, to implore the continued powerful preſence of that infinite grace, to which I owe theſe holy thoughts that are in my mind, and by which alone I can hope to performe and accompliſh them. Poſſeſs me, O God, with ſuch a full and lively ſenſe of thy undeſerved and unwearied love and kindneſs to me, in paſſing by ſo much ingratitude, and ſo many tranſgreſſions; in laying on me ſuch ſtrong and manifold obligations to be happy by obeying thee, and in affording me ſuch powerful aſſiſtance; to attain that happineſs; that I may love thee proportionably

proportionably with a more conſtant and ſtedfaſt affection, and feel an unalterable Will ſetled in me, to do the duty thou requireſt of me: into whatſoever ſtate and condition of life, thou ſhalt be pleaſed to diſpoſe me.

When we have loved thee all that we can, I am ſenſible we have loved thee but a little; becauſe we, and all that we can do are ſo inconſiderable. How ſmall a thing then is it, how poor and contemptible, that we return unto thee; when we love thee not ſo much as we are able! O bleſſed God, cauſe ſuch a delightful ſenſe of thy goodneſs to fall upon my heart, and to abide with me, that all the powers of my ſoul may ſtrain themſelves to love thee, and unite themſelves unto thee, in an unalterable choice of thy Will, to be the ſole Governour of all my deſigns, and deſires, and actions throughout the whole courſe of my life. I love my ſelf moſt, I ſee, when I love thee entirely: and ſerve my ſelf, by doing thee all faithful ſervice. In union with thee I am at reſt and peace; and in conſtant adherence to thee conſiſts my eternal ſafety and ſecurity.

To thee therefore, with the deliberate and full conſent of my will, I devote my ſelf; reſolving to love and ſerve thee, with all my heart, and with all my ſoul, and with all my ſtrength. I vow unto thee, as I have done often, all ſincere obedience; and proteſt againſt every thing that is contrary to thy holy commands, as contrary alſo to my own ſenſe and judgment, to my moſt ſober and ſerious thoughts, and to my moſt adviſed counſels and reſolutions. They all acknowledge how juſt and reaſonable, how good and pleaſant, how profitable and benificial, how honourable and glorious it is to be a doer of thy Will, which, beſides the preſent contentment and ſatisfaction of it, hath a great recompence of reward.

O

O preſerve in my mind a conſtant remembrance, how dearly I am bought by the precious blood of thy Son Chriſt; how early I was dedicated to thy ſervice; how often I have ſince found abundant cauſe to determine I would be thine; how I have condemned my ſelf for the breach of thoſe holy purpoſes, and what great ſatisfaction of mind I have had in the keeping of thy Commandments: That ſo I may never wilfully offend againſt ſo many forcible reaſons obliging me to my duty; but be ſwayed by them, notwithſtanding all the temptations of the world, the fleſh or the devil, to perſevere in a reſolved obedience to thee for ever.

And by the power of thy holy Spirit, I beſeech thee to make them clearer, ſtronger and more effectual; that I may have the ſame thoughts, paſſions, inclinations and purpoſes now, which I ſhall be apt to have when I come to die. For which end, help me often to place my ſelf before thy Judgment-ſeat, and to conſider that I muſt give an account for all that I have received; for thy holy Goſpel; for thy divine inſpirations, for the counſels and exhortations of thy Miniſters, for all the means and helps of growing better, and for all the encouragements I have even from the good things of this life, which thy bounty beſtows upon me. That by a careful preparation for ſuch a reckoning, I may be kept cloſe and ſtedfaſt to my duty; in hope of that exceeding glorious reward, which our Lord will beſtow upon all his faithful ſervants, at the day of his appearing. *Amen.*

Another

Another to the ſame effect.

O Moſt great and glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth: who art of unſpotted purity, and in whom there is not the leaſt ſhadow of change. I know that all the reſolutions of thy Wiſdome are moſt juſt and equal; and I cannot chuſe, when I am in my right mind, to be guided by any thing elſe but by thy holy Will: who deſigneſt, I ſee, in all the revelations thou haſt made of thy ſelf to us, to make us like to thy own moſt bleſſed Nature. I do here own and acknowledge moſt heartily the righteouſneſs and goodneſs of all thy Laws; I admire the lovelineſs of thy Image, in wiſdom, righteouſneſs and true holineſs; I loath my own deformity whilſt I am unlike to thee; I implore thy renewing grace as the greateſt bleſſing I can receive from thee; and I bind my ſelf to the faithful improvement of it, as the weightieſt employment of my life.

I am abundantly ſatisfied in the declaration thou haſt made of thy gracious purpoſes towards us. I renounce all thoughts and deſires that are contrary thereunto; and reſolve that holineſs and eternal life ſhall be my deſign and ſtudy. I expect no pardon, O my God, but in ways of ſobriety, righteouſneſs and godlineſs. I hope for a bleſſed immortality, only by patient continuance in well-doing. I conſent to every part of thy holy Goſpel: and add my teſtimony to the truth of its words, that *none of thy commandments are grievous, but thy yoke is eaſie, and thy burden light.* I hope, O Lord, by thy grace I ſhall never contradict my ſelf, by diſowning in my practice, theſe free and ſerious profeſſions: But that I ſhall every day to call to mind my own proteſtations and reſolutions as to

to continue with an unwearied diligence in ſtedfaſt obedience to thy commands, and to grow ſtill ſtronger in the grace of the Lord Jeſus.

O that every ſuch addreſs as this unto thy Divine Majeſty, may leave a greater ſenſe of thee, and of my duty, and of my happineſs, and of my manifold obligations, and repeated promiſes, upon my heart. That I may always go out of thy preſence with my mind more towards heaven; with lower thoughts of all the enjoyments of this life; with a greater reliſh of piety and holineſs; and more paſſionate deſires to become every way ſuch as thou canſt approve, and love and delight in for ever. And aſſiſt me, I humbly beſeech thee, ſo conſtantly from above, that whatſoever good thoughts are at any time in my mind, they may grow to fixed principles: and all heavenly affections may become a new nature, and the conſtant temper of my ſpirit: and all my purpoſes and reſolutions may advance into a ſerious practice and exerciſe of godlineſs: and all the actions of an holy life may grow more free, chearful, vigorous and full of delight, till they be compleated in everlaſting bliſs, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer after Relapſe into any Sin.

I Caſt down my ſelf before thee, O moſt holy Lord of heaven and earth, with an humble, ſorrowful and penitent heart, adoring thy infinite grace which ſuffers ſuch a vile and miſerable ſinner to approach into thy preſence. I am thine indeed,

dedicated long ago to thy ſervice, which I have ſince choſen, as the moſt perfect freedom: But ſo much the greater reaſon I have to be abaſhed before thee, and to be aſtoniſhed at thy forbearing mercy; which prolongs the life of ſuch a one as I am, who have been ſo falſe to thee, and to my own reſolutions. I remember, in the bitterneſs of my ſoul, how many obligations thou haſt laid upon me to obſerve and obey thee; how often I have acknowledged the juſtice and goodneſs of thy Precepts; and how frequently I have promiſed and vowed to conform my ſelf unto them; and what great and precious promiſes thou haſt made to me of invaluable bleſſings: And yet, wretch that I am, I have been drawn aſide from thy ways by eaſie and ſlight temptations; and for a ſmall and momentary pleaſure or gain,* have ventured the loſs of thy favour, which is better than life it ſelf.

* *Here mention the particular ſin.*

O God, that thou ſhouldſt have patience with ſo perfidious, ſo ungrateful, ſo ſenſeleſs a creature as I am! That thou ſhouldſt permit me to ſee the light of the Sun, and haſt not condemned me to utter darkneſs, in weeping, wailing, and gnaſhing of teeth! but that thou giveſt me leave to look towards heaven, and that I have any heart to ſpeak unto thee, and ſtill may call thee Father, ſaying, *Father, I have ſinned againſt thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy Son*; O the riches! O the unſearchable riches of thy grace! I can never ſufficiently admire thy exceeding great long-ſuffering towards me in Chriſt Jeſus; nor ſufficiently abhor and loath my ſelf for my foul revolt from thee, who art ſo kind and gracious: eſpecially if I ſhould ſtill continue to abuſe ſuch tender mercy and compaſſion towards me. Tribulation and anguiſh, indignation and wrath, I acknowledge is the

the due portion of thoſe that do evil: and if thou ſhouldſt abandon me, and caſt me out of thy ſight, I muſt confeſs that thou art righteous, and that I reap but the fruit of my own ways, and ſuffer the deſerved puniſhment of my late iniquity.

But thou, O God, delighteſt in mercy, and *there is forgiveneſs with thee, that thou mayeſt be feared.* Thou haſt ſworn that thou deſireſt not the death of a ſinner; but rather that he ſhould return and live: And haſt ſent thy Son Jeſus, with the moſt endearing arguments of the greateſt love, to perſwade us to return unto our duty. Behold, O Lord, I return, with grief and affliction of ſpirit that I have offended thee: deteſting the thoughts of doing the like again, and reſolving to be more careful and diligent, and circumſpect for the time to come. O let me live to the praiſe of thy Omnipotent Grace, enable me to perform theſe reſolutions in a more ſtrict and exact obedience to thy holy commands, the reſt of my days. Pſal. 130. 4. Ezek. 18. 32.

Mercy, mercy, I moſt earneſtly beg, O Father of mercies, for the ſake of him that died for me; not merely for the pardon of my ſins, but for a Divine Power to enable me to ſubdue them. I deſire not thy infinite goodneſs to bear me out in rebellion againſt thy righteouſneſs, purity and truth; but that by thy goodneſs I may be partaker of them; that my repentance may be accepted; and that it may be hearty and ſtedfaſt, never to be repented of. I deſire no peace, quiet and eaſe in my heart, but in a conſtant and reſolute oppoſition of all the temptations of the world, the fleſh and the devil; and in the hope I have, that through thy gracious aſſiſtance it ſhall be victorious.

O ſettle me, I beſeech thee, in this holy diſpoſition, that I may preſerve an entire friendſhip with

thee hereafter, by an happy agreement with thy wi
and pleaſure in every thing. And fo
Eph. 6. 10. that end make me *ſtrong in the Lord*
and in the power of his might: Th
being ſenſible of my own great weakneſs, I ma
more earneſtly depend upon thy aid from above, b
an humble and vigorous faith in thy Almighty goo
neſs. Maintain ſuch a clear light in my mind, tha
may keep me from being deceived with the vain
ſhadows and empty appearances of ſatisfactor
pleaſure in any thing of this world. Fortifie my wil
with the power of thy Divine love, that may o
vercome all ſenſual affections that ariſe in me a
any time againſt thy ſacred commands. And poſ
ſeſs me with ſuch a lively hope of thoſe good things
which Chriſt hath promiſed in the other life, that
may make me active and zealous, ſtedfaſt and un
moveable, always abounding in the work of the
Lord, knowing that my labour ſhall not be in vain
In the Lord.

Thou knoweſt the ſecrets of all hearts; let thy
mercy, O Lord, be upon me, according as I delibe
rately and ſincerely chuſe to *cleave*
Acts 11. 23. *unto thee with purpoſe of heart.* O caſt
Pſal. 51. 9, *me not away from thy preſence*; and
10, 11. *take not thy holy Spirit from me. But*
hide thy face from my ſins; *and blot*
out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O
God, and renew a conſtant ſpirit in me. Make my heart
to be ſound in thy Statutes, that I may never be aſha-
med. Keep back thy ſervant alſo from
Pſal. 119. 80. *preſumptuous ſins*; *let them not have do-*
Pſa. 19. 13, 14. *minion over me: Then ſhall I be upright,*
and I ſhall be innocent from the great
tranſgreſſion. The words of my mouth, and the medi-
tation of my heart ſhall be accepted in thy ſight, O
Lord my ſtrength, and my Redeemer. Amen, Amen.

A

A

THANKSGIVING

To the

DIVINE GOODNESS

For any hope of a

PARDON

After ſuch

RELAPSE.

O Eternally moſt bleſſed God, the Fountain of all good; from whence all creatures derive whatſoever they enjoy. They are all poor and indigent things, full of neceſſities and wants, which are continually ſupplied out of thy fulneſs. But the wants of our ſouls are the moſt lamentable: becauſe, beſides the poverty of creatures, we have made a great many needs to our ſelves by our wilful departure from thee, in whom we live, and move, and have our being. We ſtand in need of thy Pardon, of thy converting grace, and the greater ſupplies of thy holy Spirit: which we know not how with any confidence to expect, but that all theſe wants are not too big for thy infinite goodneſs to relieve; and that thou haſt been pleaſed moſt compaſſionately to conſider our miſerable condition, in ſending Chriſt Jeſus into the world, and filling him with all the treaſures of thy grace and mercy, that he might diſpenſe them to us, according to our ſeveral neceſſities.

O how excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! How surpassing is thy love! that will pass by the insolent offences of thy creatures against thy high authority, and Sovereign goodness; and not let them eternally perish without a remedy, in that forlorn condition into which they have brought themselves! Blessed, for ever blessed be thy sparing Mercy; which hath *delivered Christ Jesus for our offences*; and testified thy acceptance of his Sacrifice of himself, by *raising him again for our justification.* Blessed be thy Name, for the gracious declaration which thou hast made, *that if any man sin, we*
1 Joh. 2. 1, 2. *have an advocate with thee, Christ Jesus the righteous, who is the propitiation for our sins.* I most thankfully receive these glad tidings, *which are worthy of*
1 Tim. 1. 15. *all acceptation, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.* Thanks be to thy tender mercy, which hath restored us to a possibility of recovering thy grace and favour. The smallest hope of it, I acknowledge, is more valuable than the greatest abundance of all the enjoyments and pleasures of this present life.

What praise therefore, what love, what obedience am I bound to render unto thee, who hast given me such a good hope of peace and reconciliation with thee; and thereby delivered me from the horrour of my own guilty mind, remembring that I have adventured to oppose my will to thine? I ought for ever, with the most zealous devotion of a grateful and obedient heart to admire and stand amazed at thy inconceiveable Grace, which will not strictly mark what is done amiss; but accept of our repentance and amendment, in stead of an entire and constant performance of our duty to thee, *O the height, the depth, the length and the breadth of thy love in Christ Jesus!* which is the satisfaction of our heart, and

the

the joy of our lives; which would otherwiſe be intolerably grievous and burdenſome to us, whilſt we remember that we are ſinners.

Fill me, O Lord, with a moſt ardent love to thee, now that I here offer up my ſelf, in truth and ſincerity of heart, to be wholly diſpoſed by thee. Behold, O Lord, my will lies at my feet: I would have no will of my own; but deſire only that thy will may be done. And fill me with an holy fear of thee, that thy indulgent mercy may not make me remiſs, and negligent, and preſumptuous again to offend thee: But a perpetual ſenſe of my new obligations to thee, in reviving my hopes, which I had forfeited, in thee, may render me more watchful, more diligent, more earneſt and ſolicitous, more humble and diſtruſtful of my ſelf, and more fervent to implore the powerful ſuccours of thy divine Grace.

O that it may be as natural to me to pray to thee, as it is to breathe. And thou *who filleſt the hungry with good things*, pour into me life, and ſtrength, and vigour; and in a conſtant dependence on thee, and an hearty endeavour to do thy will. *Strengthen me with might, by thy ſpirit in the inner-man*: That notwithſtanding the ſtrongeſt temptations wherewith I may be aſſaulted, and notwithſtanding the weakneſs and feebleneſs of my own ſpirit to reſiſt them, I may perſevere courageouſly in well-doing unto the end; and finiſh my courſe with joy; and lay my ſelf down to reſt in an holy hope, that I ſhall enter into a ſtate of ſafety and ſecurity from all danger, and remain for ever in the joy of our Lord. *Amen.* Epheſ. 3. 16.

A Prayer for the Divine Grace.

O Moſt bleſſed God, the high and mighty One, who inhabiteſt eternity; and art, what thou always waſt, and ever wilt be, the moſt perfect power, wiſdom, goodneſs, and truth; the fountain of all the perfections that are in us. We ought to addreſs our ſelves to thee in the greateſt humility of ſpirit; having nothing to preſent thee withal which we can call our own; and being unable by all our righteouſneſs to profit thee, who ſtandeſt in need of none of thy creatures. But alas! O Lord, we have robbed thee of that which we have received from thee; and are ſo far from giving thee any thing of ours, that we have not returned to thee that which is thine.

O the miſerable condition therefore into which we have brought our ſelves! who are not ſo much as fit to receive any more from thy divine bounty; and, which is worſe, have been too unwilling to partake of thy favours! O thy infinite love in Chriſt Jeſus, which hath beſtowed the richeſt grace upon us, whether we would or no! Thou haſt honoured our nature with thy divine preſence, dwelling in it. Thou haſt delivered him to die for our ſins. Thou haſt given us a bleſſed hope in thee, by his Reſurrection from the dead. Thou

Acts 3. 26. haſt *ſent him to bleſs us, in turning every one of us from our iniquities*; And given him all power in heaven and earth; that he may ſuccour and ſtrengthen us when we are tempted, and enable us to overcome.

I thank thee with all my ſoul, for this abundant grace, ſo freely and undeſired, conferred upon us. Which encourages me to hope in thee, now that thou inclineſt my heart towards thee, and haſt given

given me a thankful ſenſe of thy love, and ſome will to obey thee, and holy reſolutions to cleave unto thee in well doing; that thou wilt not deny me the conſtant aſſiſtance of that good Spirit which our Saviour hath bid us ask of thee, to ſtrengthen, confirm and ſettle what thou haſt begun to do for me, in a perfect love, and ſtedfaſt obedience to all thy holy commands.

O God of all grace and might, the root of our life, and power and ſtrength; without whom all good deſires and purpoſes wither and die: withdraw not the ſweet influences of thy holy Spirit from thy unworhty ſervant, who entirely confides in thee, and hath no hope but in thy infinite Mercies. Remember not againſt me former iniquities; let not my late back ſliding and return to folly cut me off from the communication of thy grace: which is wont to preſs into thoſe ſouls that open themſelves to receive it, and ſeriouſly thirſt after it. My ſoul thirſteth for thee, O God; that I may be more firmly united to thee, and be made more exactly like thee, in unchangeable righteouſneſs, purity and goodneſs.

Cheriſh and encreaſe the moſt faint but ſincere motions, which thou ſeeſt in me towards a more compleat participation of thee. And eſpecially preſerve in me a full confidence in thy Almighty Love, as ready to accompliſh the deſires and endeavours of all thoſe, who yield up themſelves unto it, in hearty willingneſs to be governed by it. That being born up by this ſtrong hope in thee, my helper, and exceeding great reward, no temptation may be able to prevail over me: but I may walk ſtedfaſtly and evenly with thee, in all conditions and circumſtances of life. Make me feel ſo much of the comfort of this faith and love, and hope, and obedience, reviving me to a delightful ſenſe of a bleſſed

immortality; that whatſoever allurements or diſcouragements I meet withal in this world, they may only provoke me to give a greater proof of all theſe in a conſtant adherence to my duty; and occaſion the encreaſe of my unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction.

And enlarge my heart thereby to ſuch a meaſure of Chriſtian piety, that I may not only be innocent and harmleſs, but forward alſo to do good; and not only be contented with my portion, but rejoyce in our Lord alway: and rejoyce, not only to do thy will, but to ſuffer alſo for righteouſneſs ſake; knowing that great ſhall be my reward in heaven. Bleſs my endeavours to add *to faith, virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godlineſs; and to godlineſs, brotherly kindneſs; and to brotherly kindneſs, charity:* 2 Pet. 1. 5, 6, 7, 10, 11. *That, doing theſe things, I may never fall; But an entrance may be miniſtered to me abundantly, into the everlaſting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Amen.

A ſhort Prayer when any man's occaſions call him to a place where he fears danger.

O Almighty God; who art every where, and more eſpecially preſent to thoſe ſouls that look up unto thee, with an high eſteem of thy favour and grace, and with hearty deſires to continue in thy love by patient continuance in well-doing. In this humble faith in thy Divine goodneſs, and with a due fear and reverence of thy glorious Majeſty, I proſtrate my ſoul and body before thee; to put my ſelf into thy moſt gracious protecti-

on,

on, and to beg the powerful assistance of thy holy Spirit, to preserve me whereſoever I am, in a dutiful obſervance of all thy holy commands.

I am ſenſible, O Lord, that we live in a world of temptations, and that our nature is weak, and ready to yield to them; and that our affections are apt to wander after vanity, and that ſudden paſſions oftentimes tranſport us from our duty. But I know withal, that a ſenſe of thy all-ſeeing eye, and of the life to come, and of the rewards and puniſhments which thou wilt render according to our works; will certainly over-awe all ſinful motions in me, and break the force of the ſtrongeſt temptations that aſſault me. And therefore, the greater the danger is, the more earneſtly I ſue unto thee, to be poſſeſſed with a piercing ſenſe, and lively remembrance of theſe things, which may abide with me alway; and eſpecially this day, in every place and company into which I ſhall come.

O that I may not be ſo forgetful of thee, and of my own good, as for the ſmall and momentany pleaſures of this world, to hazard the loſs of thoſe great and eternal joys, which we expect in the other life. But enable me, O moſt gracious God, ſo to behave my ſelf, that when I have paſſed through all the employments and occaſions of this day, I may bring my ſelf back again into thy preſence, ſo pure and undefiled; that I may begin thoſe joys that are to come, in chearful praiſes of thee; and in a comfortable ſenſe that thou dwelleſt in me, and art leading me by thy holy Spirit to immortal happineſs, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer for ſerious and effectual Conſideration; the better to eſtabliſh all good reſolutions.

O Moſt glorious Majeſty of Heaven and Earth: who art above the higheſt of all our thoughts, and much more beyond all our words. But that thou art great and mighty, we know by thy works of wonder which we behold. And the admirable diſpoſure and government of all things tell us, that thou art infinitely wiſe and knoweſt all things. We ſee how good thou art, by the large proviſion which thou haſt made for all thy creatures, every where. Thy Precepts teach us how juſt and holy thou art; and by thy promiſes we know that thou art gracious and bountiful; and by thy threatnings that thou hateſt iniquity; and by thy executing of both, that thou art faithful and true, and wilt ſave the godly and puniſh evil-doers.

When we conſider all this, we may juſtly wonder at our ſelves, that we ſhou'd not fear thee, and reverence thee, and love thee, ſeek thy love and favour above all things; by ſtudying to pleaſe thee in univerſal obedience to thy bleſſed will; which deſigns to employ thy Almighty Power to make us ſo great, ſo happy, and ſo glorious. And there is no other reaſon, I ſee, why we are no better affected towards thee, but becauſe our thoughts are exceeding ſhort, and light and vain; and we ſo ſeldom conſider and deeply ponder, what, we confeſs, thou art, and in what relation we ſtand to thy Divine Majeſty.

Vouchſafe therefore, O God of all grace, to awaken my mind to a more lively and ſtedfaſt remembrance of thee, my Creator, my Redeemer, my daily Benefactor, and my moſt loving and tender hearted

hearted Father, in Chriſt Jeſus. O that no day may paſs without ſome ſerious and conſiderate thoughts of thoſe things, which ſo nearly concern my everlaſting welfare. And by thy powerful preſence with me, enlighten my mind to a clearer ſenſe of them. Quicken and enliven that ſenſe, I humbly beſeech thee, and make it ſo ſtrong and moving; that it may preſs upon my heart and affections, till it overcome me to ſurrender ſoul and body abſolutely unto thee.

Pardon all my former neglects of thee; and let them not hinder the influences of thy holy Spirit upon me, by which I may be changed into thy image and likeneſs. Sanctifie my underſtanding, that I may rightly conceive thy holy Truths, and fully apprehend them. Sanctifie my memory, that I may keep in mind all that I know of thee, and of thy bleſſed will revealed to us in Chriſt Jeſus. Sanctifie my will, that I may chearfully embrace, and entirely conſent to thine in all things. And ſanctifie all my affections, that I may love thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength; and delight in thee more, than in all the contentments of this life; and hope more for thy glory, than all worldly preferments; and fear thee more than the greateſt Potentate upon earth; and take more care for my ſoul and eternal things, than for this body and all its momentary pleaſures; and hate all ſin more than my greateſt enemies; yea, help me to love mine enemies; to do good to them that do evil to me; to bleſs them that curſe me, and pray for them that deſpitefully uſe me.

For which end, ſanctifie all my Paſſions; that I may be angry at nothing ſo much, as that I have diſpleaſed thee; and in an holy indignation at my ſelf, and in revenge of my former negligence and diſobedience, may be more ſtrict and ſevere in the perfor-

performance of all my duty for the time to come. Sanctifie me throughout in body as well as ſpirit; that I may poſſeſs it in holineſs and honour: and all my ſenſes may adminiſter occaſions to my mind, to remember thee, to praiſe thee, and to bleſs thee, who every way ſo liberally provideſt for me. Sanctifie all my converſation with others, and all the employments of this life; that I may ſtill be heavenly minded, and have a reſpect to my laſt end, and everlaſting good. Sanctifie all the bleſſings of health, and ſtrength, and peace, and plenty, and friends: yea, and all the croſſes and afflictions of this life; that they may make me more ſerious and conſiderate, and help more perfectly to purifie my ſpirit, and diſpoſe me for the happineſs of the other world.

Raiſe me, O Lord, to ſuch an exceeding great delight in theſe holy thoughts and meditations; and entertain me with ſuch a bliſsful ſenſe of thee, when I addreſs my ſelf unto thee, that I may rather be unwilling to depart from thy preſence, than weary of converſing with thee. And when I return to my other employments again, O that my mind may be often looking back towards thee, my God, my exceeding joy; deſirous to be always with thee, and longing to enjoy thee in unchangeable love, and perfect likeneſs to thee: Unto which I moſt humbly beſeech thee to bring me, for thy mercies ſake declared in Chriſt Jeſus, who lives for ever to make interceſſion for us, *Amen.*

The

THe better to preſerve a conſtant ſenſe of God in the mind, and pious diſpoſitions in the Heart: Here follow certain ſhort Ejaculations (as we are wont to call them) in which, upon ſeveral occaſions, any man may lift up his ſoul to God: and if he do it fervently, may find it of great effect.

EJACULATIONS.

When he awakes in the Morning, he may ſay.

I Laid me down and ſlept; I awaked, for the Lord ſuſtained me, Pſal. 3. 5.

How precious alſo are thy thoughts unto me, O God? how great is the ſumm of them? If I would count them; they are more in number than the ſand: when I awake, I am ſtill with thee, Pſal. 139. 17, 18.

When he is dreſſing himſelf.

O how beautiful is the ornament of a pure, humble, meek, patient and charitable Spirit! Help me, O God, to *put on the Lord Jeſus*, in theſe and all other virtues.

When

When he goes into the Church, or his Closet.

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise, Psal. 57. 7.

When he begins any business.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth, Psal. 121. 2.

The Lord Jesus Christ be with my spirit, 2 Tim. 4. 22.

When he goes forth of his doors.

Hold thou up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not, Psal. 17. 5. *Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me*, 119. 133. *Give thy Angels charge over me, to keep me in all my ways*, 91. 11.

When he walks abroad, and beholds all things round about him, he may say as it is *Psal.* 104. 24.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches, &c.

At Meals.

O taste and see that the Lord is good. He filleth our hearts with food and gladness, Psal. 24. 8. Acts 14. 17.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with his benefits, Psal. 68. 19.

At

At Candle-light.

Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us, Pſal. 4. 6. Or,

God be merciful unto us, and bleſs us, and cauſe his face to ſhine upon us, Pſal. 67. 1.

When he goes to bed.

I will both lay me down in peace and ſleep: for thou, Lord, only makeſt me dwell in ſafety, Pſal. 4. 8.

He that keepeth me doth not ſlumber. The Lord is my keeper: The Lord is my defence, who neither ſlumbers, nor ſleeps, Pſal. 121. 4, 5.

In the Night-ſeaſon.

O happy ſouls, that *reſt not day nor night, ſaying Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, which is, and is to come!* Rev. 4. 8.

O great God! the darkneſs hideth not from thee; but the night ſhineth as the day: the darkneſs and the light are both alike to thee, Pſal. 139. 12.

My ſoul ſhall be ſatisfied as with marrow and fatneſs; and my mouth ſhall praiſe thee with joyful lips: when I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night-watches. Becauſe thou haſt been my help; therefore in the ſhadow of thy wings will I rejoyce, Pſal 63. 5, 6, 7.

On a ſick-bed, or in other affliction.

It is the Lord, let him do what ſeemeth him good, 1 Sam. 3. 18.

It is good that a man ſhould both hope, and quietly wait for the ſalvation of the Lord, Lam. 3. 25.

Bleſſed be the Lord for my long continued health and all his other benefits. Let the remembrance of thy former mercies refreſh my ſoul, and encourage my hope, and ſtrengthen my patience, with a quiet reſignation of my ſelf to thy good pleaſure.

At the point of Death.

I have waited for thy ſalvation, O Lord, Gen. 49. 18.

Into thy hand, O Father, I commend my ſelf, who breathedſt into me the breath of Life. *Lord Jeſus receive my ſpirit,* which thou haſt redeemed by thy precious bloud, and ſanctified by the Holy Ghoſt.

When he hears a Paſſing-bell.

Verily, every man at his beſt ſtate is altogether vanity, Pſal. 39. 5.

O teach me ſo to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wiſdom, Pſal. 90. 12.

In a time of Plague.

O Lord, correct us, but with judgment; not in thine anger, leſt thou bring us to nothing, Jer. 10. 24.

In a time of War.

O Lord, ariſe, help us and deliver us for thy names ſake.

From our enemies defend us, O Chriſt. Graciouſly look upon our afflictions.

King

King *Aſa* cried unto God in this manner when he was going to give battel to a million of enemies.

Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power. Help us, O Lord our God, for we reſt on thee, and in thy name go againſt this multitude, 2 Chron. 14. 11.

In any other publick Calamity.

Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thy heritage to reproach, Joel. 2. 17.

A great Offender may often ſay with the Prodigal.

Father I have ſinned againſt thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy ſon. And with the Publican, *God be merciful to me a ſinner.*

After any mercy received.

What ſhall I render unto the Lord, for all the benefits that he hath done unto me? Pſal. 116. 12.

Every day will I give thanks unto thee, and praiſe thy name for ever and ever, Pſal. 145. 1.

I ſhall mention no more, becauſe I would not invite the Reader to make this ſort of Prayer too common. For by that means, it will be in danger to grow cold, and loſe its force and efficacy, by growing faſhionable. To that purpoſe I remember a devout Prelate of our own (Biſhop *Hall*) ſomewhere delivers his judgment about this matter. But if any one find that he can with profit turn his thoughts this way, upon all occaſions;

sions; he may easily invent more Ejaculations. *The measure of them is,* (as that forenamed person speaks) *to preserve our hearts in a constant, tender and godly disposition; which shall be further actuated upon all opportunities, by the exercise of our more enlarged and fixed devotions.*

A Prayer for Submission *to God, in case of any great loss in a man's Estate, Relations or Friends.*

O Most Holy holy, holy; the Supreme Lord and Governour of the world: who art unsearchable in thy Wisdom, unspotted in thy Justice, and irresistible in thy Power: whose goodness hath no bounds, but what thy wise and holy will gives unto it; and art immutable in these and all other perfections, the great God, most blessed for ever. It is most reasonable and agreeable to our nature, most profitable and convenient to our interest, most satisfactory and suitable to our wisest choice, by an absolute and quiet submission in all things to thy Sovereign Wisdom, Justice and Goodness, to declare our fear and reverence of thee; our unfeigned love to thee, and desires to please thee; our trust and confidence in thee; and ready disposition to obey thee.

Thou art too great, I know, to delight in grieving us thy poor creatures; and hast other ways of procuring thy own pleasure, than by our misery, pain and torment. And therefore, in a full perswasion of thy unerring providence over us, and infinite Charity towards us, I here most humbly and freely resign all my thoughts and desires unto thee: submitting my self entirely to thy Orders, and resolving by thy gracious assistance to rest contented with whatsoever thou appoint-

appointeſt. *The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; bleſſed be the Name of the Lord.* Bleſſed be Job 1. 21.
thy name, who haſt continued to me ſo long, the enjoyment of ſo many good things. Bleſſed be thy name, that I had any thing to part withal, whereby I may teſtifie my faith in thee, and affection to thee. Bleſſed be thy name, that I have any of the comforts of this life ſtill remaining, and that they are not all taken away from me. I have nothing too great, or too dear to be reſigned to thee: from whoſe bounty I received all I have; and who art my beſt, and my eternal friend.

O that no repining thoughts may ariſe in my heart, to diſorder and diſcompoſe my duty towards thee, or towards my neighbour. But help me rather to think wherein I have offended thee, and carefully to amend it; to place my affections more ſtedfaſtly on thoſe unmoveable things which are above; to lay up my treaſure and hope in heaven; and to prepare my ſelf, by perfecting my purity, and thankfulneſs, and patience, and all other virtues, to be tranſlated thither, where our life is hid in thee with Chriſt Jeſus.

I thank thee, O Father of Mercies, that thou haſt given us ſuch everlaſting conſolation, through thy Grace, in him. Every day will I bleſs thee, and I will praiſe thy name for ever and ever; for thoſe exceeding great and precious promiſes which thou haſt given us to ſupport and comfort us, in all the troubles of this life. Increaſe my faith, ſtrengthen and confirm my hope; lift up my ſpirit continually to that bleſſed place where Jeſus is: that I may rejoyce in hope of that immortal life, when all tears ſhall be wiped from our eyes, and there ſhall be no ſighing nor ſorrow any more; but

but we [* who are now parted a-
sunder] shall meet together to
acknowledge, with eternal prai-
ses, thy wise and merciful pro-
vidence, which by ways most con-
trary to our desires hath brought
us to endless and undisturbed bliss.

* *This clause to be used only in the loss of Friends or Relations.*

Thou knowest, O Lord the weakness and frailty of our nature, and therefore vouchsafe me the constant assistance of thy good Spirit, (for which I depend upon thee) to enable me to continue in this humble, quiet and dutiful submission to thee: waiting for that peaceable and joyful repose, in the eternal rest which thou hast prepared for thy people; through thy mercies in Christ Jesus: By whom all glory, honour, love and obedience be rendered to thee, by me and all mankind, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer which a pious soul may use, that is full of doubts, and much troubled in mind.

O Lord, the *Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.* I acknowledge and
2 Cor. 1. 3. adore thy eternal Power, Wisdom and Goodness. I render thee my most hearty thanks for all the benefits thou hast freely bestowed on me, from my first coming into the world until this time. *Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us ward, they cannot be reckon-*
Psal. 40. 5. *ed up in order unto thee: If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.* Above all I bless thee for that great demonstra-

demonſtration of thy love and good will to Mankind by Chriſt Jeſus, whom thou haſt ſent into the world to ſave ſinners: and for bringing me to the clear knowledge of him, faith in him, and ſome love, I hope, towards him, and unfeigned affection to thy holy will, declared to us in his bleſſed Goſpel.

O God, thou haſt taught me from my youth up, and hitherto been marvellouſly gracious to me. Hide not, I beſeech thee, thy face now from me; and put not thy ſervant away in diſpleaſure. Thou haſt been my help, leave me not; neither forſake me, O God of my ſalvation. But for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, I humbly intreat thee to pardon and paſs by all my neglects of thee, and unthankfulneſs to thee, and offences againſt thee. And as I here ſincerely devote and dedicate my whole ſelf, ſoul and body to thy ſervice; ſo help me, O my God, and further me in the performance of my duty, by the grace of thy holy Spirit. To thee all hearts are open, and from thee no ſecrets are hid: deal with me according to the earneſt deſire and full purpoſe of my ſoul, to conform my ſelf in all things to thy holy Will

Settle in me an unmoveable faith in thy infinite Mercies, a conſtant love and chearful affection to my duty, and a readineſs of heart to obey thee, and to ſubmit to thy wiſe appointments in every condition. The whole earth is full of thy Mercy: thou openeſt thy hand and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing: O refuſe not the humble deſires of my poor ſoul, which gaſpeth after thee, even as the thirſty land. Thou who giveſt to the Beaſts their food, and to the young Ravens when they cry; O ſatisfie me early with thy Mercies, that I may rejoice and be glad all my days. Compoſe my broken and diſturbed thoughts, quiet my troubled and diſor-

diſordered ſpirit; and appeaſe all the ragings and tumults there, by a ſweet ſenſe of thy moſt tender mercies, which have been ever of old, and endure continually.

Baniſh from me all cauſleſs fears and jealouſies; deliver me from all unprofitable ſadneſs and dejections of Spirit: keep me from raſh judging of my ſelf, and much more from charging thee fooliſhly. Beſtow upon me a chearful ſpirit, by an humble hope in thee; and by referring my ſelf wholly to thee. Endue me with ſuch wiſdom and uprightneſs, that I may neither neglect my duty, nor ſuſpect thy gracious acceptance of me. Give me an hearty zeal to do the beſt that I am able; and a ſettled perſwaſion that thou requireſt no more of me.

Defend me, O my gracious God, from diſhonouring thee, and my Religion; by diſtruſting thy goodneſs, and calling thy loveing kindneſs in queſtion towards thoſe that are ſincerely bent to pleaſe thee. Remove all troubleſome imaginations from me, and give me a clear underſtanding of thee, and of my ſelf. Or when I am in darkneſs and confuſion of thoughts grant me ſo much light and judgment, as not to conclude my ſelf forſaken by thee, but to reflect upon thy long continued favours to me and many deliverances of me; that ſo I may reſolve ſtill to hope in thee, to bear my preſent trouble patiently, and to reſign my will abſolutely to thy good pleaſure. And good Lord, enable me to look beyond theſe clouds, to that bleſſed ſtate whither my Saviour is gone; in which there is no darkneſs at all: and in an humble hope of coming to the ſame place where he is, to content my ſelf with any condition whilſt I am here, ſo far remote from that Region of light and glory.

Hea

Hear me, most loving and merciful Father, I most humbly beseech thee. Pity my great dulness and deadness of heart. Strengthen my weak and feeble endeavours. Support my fainting spirit, and cause it humbly to hope in thee for ever. Confirm and establish every good thought, desire and purpose which thou hast wrought in me. Perfect that which thou hast begun. Make me to grow in wisdom, faith, love, and willing obedience. Conduct me hereafter so evenly and steadily, so peaceably and quietly, so chearfully and securely in thy ways; that I may glorifie thee whilst I live, by encouraging others to accompany me in thy service. And when I come to die, may resign my soul unto thee with an undisturbed mind; and in an holy hope also of a joyful resurrection of the body, at the great day of the Lord Jesus; to whom be glory and dominion for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be said by others for one that is troubled in mind.

O God, the only hope, the Refuge, the Comfort and satisfaction of our souls: Of whose Goodness and tender Mercy all the world hath so many testimonies, and we our selves have had such long experience, that we are encouraged thereby, though most unworthy, to make this humble address to thy Divine Majesty.

Thou seest, we know, and pitiest the misery and torment of this afflicted spirit; none of * his sighs or groanings are hid from thee: * Or her. But to express also our charity and compassionate concernment for him, we are bold to recommend him to thy favour, as a great object of the bowels of thy mercy, which are in Christ Jesus.

We ought indeed, above all things, to admire thy most wise goodness, which *hath set forth him to be a propitiation through faith in his blood*; and invited even the greatest sinners to return unto thee and live. Blessed, eternally blessed be thy great and glorious grace, which hath sent us such glad tidings of peace and reconciliation, and assured hope; that if we obediently believe thy Holy Gospel, *thou wilt be merciful to our sins, and remember our iniquities no more.* O Father of mercies, who *openest the eyes of the blind, and raisest them that are bowed down*; open the eyes of this thy servant, that he may see thy marvellous love revealed in Christ Jesus. Touch his spirit with such a powerful sense of it, that he may both heartily and absolutely consent to be governed by thy Laws, and likewise be revived with a comfortable belief of the truth of all thy precious promises.

Rom. 3. 25.

Heb. 8. 12.

Psal. 146. 8.

Free him from all confusion of thoughts, and bestow on him a clear and distinct apprehension of all things belonging to his peace. And as thou hast wrought in him a fear of thy Divine Majesty, and many holy desires after thee; and perswaded him, we hope, to be willing in all things to live godlily: So possess him with an humble belief that thou wilt always enable him to do accordingly; and never fail to strengthen him against all the power of the enemy, till he hath got the victory, and triumphs in hope of thy salvation.

Raise up his spirit, most mighty Lord, by the power of a most strong faith in thine Omnipotent Goodness: which delights to cherish the least gaspings and pantings in us after true righteousness. Bear him up by this above all the clouds wherein he is encompassed, into a clear heaven of

light

light and joy. Quiet and appeale all his tumultuous passions, that he may silently listen to thy voice in thy holy Gospel, saying; *Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.* Mat. 11. 28.

Thou who searchest the hearts, knowest that he unfeignedly submits himself to the yoke of thy Laws. It is the present grief and affliction of his soul, that he is no more perfectly subject to it. O refresh him with the belief, that thou art more desirous than he, that there should be a perfect reconciliation of his very nature and disposition to thee: and that therefore thou wilt not deny him the assistance of thy mighty grace to help him to fulfil thy whole good will and pleasure.

O that he may take courage from this hope to begin to do thy will; and continuing in well-doing, and growing more and more in strength and power to perform his duty, he may be delivered from all slavish fears, and jealousies, and distrust of thy divine goodness. Especially keep him from despair of thy mercy, as the greatest dishonour to thee, and to thy abundant grace in the Lord Jesus.

O thou who didst invite even those great sinners, who by *wicked hands took and crucified thy dear Son, to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins*: lift up this dejected soul to an humble confidence in thee, that thou wilt not deny him the same mercy. And as thou hast sworn that thou hast no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that he should turn from his evil way and live: so be pleased, blessed God, to make him sensibly feel his soul is turning to thee; since he can find no comfort and satisfaction, but only in thy love and favour, which he esteems better than life itself. Acts 2. 23. 38.

And that he may obtain thy pardon, help him *from his heart to forgive every one that*
Matth. 18. 35. *hath trespassed against him.* And if
Luke 19. 8. *he have taken any thing from any man wrongfully,* grant him grace to *restore it* to him: *To give alms likewise of such things as he hath, and to break off his sins*
Luke 11. 41. *by righteousness, and his iniquities by*
Dan. 4. 27. *shewing mercy to the poor*; that thou
Job 33. 26. who art rich in mercy, mayest *be favourable unto him, and he may see thy face with joy.*

Hear us, good Lord, and give every one of us grace to walk exactly, and to keep pure consciences, void of offence, towards thee, and towards all men; that so we may live and die in peace; looking for thy mercy in Christ Jesus unto eternal life. *Amen.*

Another for a person in the same condition.

O Lord, the Father of spirits, the Lover of our souls: who art pleased best in our love and hearty affection to thee; and wouldst have us delight our selves in the thoughts of thee, and rejoyce continually in thy holy name. Give us leave to render our humble thanks to thy divine Majesty, for this knowledge which thou hast given us of thy blessed Nature; and imitation of it, to recommend with most fervent charity, this desolate and afflicted soul to thy tender Mercies. He is filled with trembling thoughts and frightful apprehensions of thee. The dread and terror of thy displeasure hath overwhelmed his spirit, *He is troubled, and bowed*
Psal. 38. 6. *down greatly; he goeth mourning all the day long.* O that thou wouldst be

be pleaſed ſo to repreſent thy ſelf unto him, that he may be poſſeſſed with the ſame ſenſe which thou haſt wrought in our minds; that *thou art Love*, and deſireſt to be loved, and chearfully ſerved by all that worſhip thee.

Thou haſt graciouſly wrought in him already a ſenſe of his duty towards thee. Great ſorrow overflows his ſoul for his neglects of thee, and offences againſt thee. And out of this depth he ſighs and groans and cries unto thee with earneſt deſires and purpoſes to live more holily for the time to come. Awaken his mind, good Lord, to very ſenſible and thankful reflections upon this grace which thou haſt begun to ſhew him. Bleſs all the pious counſels and inſtructions which thou likewiſe vouchſafeſt unto him, to the encouraging of his hope in thee, that thou *who haſt begun a good work in him, wilt perfect it even until the day of Jeſus Chriſt.* Remember him that *as thy Majeſty is, ſo is thy Mercy*: and that thy power delights to ſhew it ſelf in doing good unto thy creatures; eſpecially to the humble, the thankful, and the willing perſons who are ready to ſubmit themſelves to thy bleſſed Will.

Philip. 1. 6. Eccluſ. 2. 18.

O that this divine faith may baniſh all thoſe fears that drive him from thee: and that he may rather fear leſt he ſhould offend thy Divine Majeſty, by not confiding in thoſe promiſes of mercy, which thou haſt made in thy holy Goſpel to all returning ſinners. O that all his thoughts and care hereafter may only be to make his purpoſe of pleaſing thee in all things, ſerious, hearty and unfeigned: believing that thou wilt graciouſly accept ſuch holy reſolutions, and certainly further and ſucceed them as the effects of thine own inſpirations.

Suffer not his spirit to be oppressed under the sense of his great weakness; or discouraged, though he fall short of his present holy desires, purposes and endeavours: but bear him up in a strong persuasion, that by sincere, constant and unwearied diligence in well-doing, he shall at last obtain the victory; through the power of thy holy Spirit assisting of him. Make him see how reasonable it is most gratefully to acknowledge thy infinite Mercies, if after much pains, many conflicts and long patience, he may recover a state of friendship with thee. That so he may not spend his time in dejected complaints, nor ever faint in his mind, or despond in the Christian course: but still pursue the complete mastery over himself, in assured hope that thou wilt be with him, and never leave him or forsake him.

We bless thee for that instance of thy exceeding grace to the chiefest of sinners, which thou gavest in thy holy Apostle of us Gentiles: *Who was a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious; but for this cause obtained mercy, that in him Christ Jesus might shew forth all long-suffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.*

1 Tim. 1. 13. 16.

Above all we bless thee for our Lord Jesus himself, whom thou sentest in our flesh, that he might save sinners. We bless thee for all the miraculous cures which he wrought on miserable creatures, whereby he demonstrated his great charity towards us; For the gracious proclamation he hath made of thy pardoning mercy: and for the universal invitation which he hath given to every one, *that is a thirst to come and take the waters of life freely.*

Rev. 22. 17.

We

We thank thee for his death upon the Croſs, that he might make a propitiation for the ſins of the whole world: for his great love in praying then for his bittereſt enemies, that they might be forgiven: for his reſurrection and exaltation at thy right hand, *to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance, and forgiveneſs of ſins*: And that he hath given to his Apoſtles, the *Miniſtry of reconciliation*; and admitted us into a Covenant of mercy and forgiveneſs, by Baptiſm into his Name; and hath left us the Cup of bleſſing, which *is the New Covenant in his blood for the remiſſion of ſins*; and given power and authority to his Miniſters to abſolve all thoſe who heartily repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Goſpel. We thank thee, O Lord, for the aſſurance we have *that he lives for ever to make interceſſion for us, and is able to ſave to the uttermoſt all thoſe that come to thee by him*: and that he *is a mereiful and faithful High Prieſt, to make reconciliation for the ſins of the people; being touched with a feeling of all our miſeries.*

1 Joh. 2. 2.
Luke 23. 34.
Acts 5. 31.
2 Cor. 5. 18.
Matth. 26. 28.
Heb 7. 25.
Heb. 2. 17.
Heb. 4. 15.

We cannot doubt, O bleſſed God, of thy gracious intentions and deſires to pardon us, and to make us better, when we ſeriouſly meditate on all theſe teſtimonies of thy Divine love; and on that eaſie and gentle yoke, which thou layeſt on us, to love thee with all our heart, and our neighbour as our ſelves: and on the promiſed aſſiſtance which we have hopes of from above, to inſpire, enliven, and ſtrengthen us, to all well-doing, and patient ſuffering.

O that this languiſhing ſoul may likewiſe feel the comfortable influence of all theſe heavenly Truths

reviving and chearing his ſpirit into a good hope in thee; that thou wilt mercifully accept the oblation which he is willing to make of himſelf to thee, and alſo conſtantly enable him to offer himſelf with greater affection and more pure devotion to thy ſervice. Scatter all the clouds that darken his mind, and liſt upon him the light of thy countenance. O *give him the comfort of thy help again, and eſtabliſh him with thy free ſpirit.*

Pſal. 51. 12. *Quicken him, O Lord, for thy names*
ſake: for thy righteouſneſs ſake bring
143. 11. *his ſoul out of trouble. Put gladneſs*
4. 7. *into his heart, and revive him again;*
85. 6. *that he and we may rejoyce in thee.*
Amen; Amen. O God of all grace;
2 Theſ. 1. 11. *fulfil in him all the good pleaſure of*
thy goodneſs, and the work of faith
1 Tim. 1. 14. *with power: that the name of our*
Lord may be glorified in him; according to that grace which was exceeding abundant, with faith and love which is in Chriſt Jeſus; To whom be glory and praiſe for ever and ever. Amen.

When ſickneſs arreſts any perſon, it is time for him preſently in the very beginning of it to ſearch and try his ways; *ſorrowfully to confeſs the ſins of which he finds himſelf guilty, with a full purpoſe of amendment; to adviſe with his Spiritual Guide; and before his ſpirit be feeble and broken, to recommend himſelf heartily to our bleſſed Saviour, by receiving the Communion of his Body and Blood; therein making a commemoration of his wonderful love, and devoting himſelf again to his ſervice: And having ſet his Houſe in order (as the Prophet ſaid to* Hezekiah, Iſa. 38. 1.) *and ſetled his eſtate, to acknowledge GOD's great goodneſs to him hitherto, and to ſubmit himſelf wholly to his good pleaſure, in ſuch manner as followeth.*

A Prayer in the beginning of a Sickneſs.

O Lord, the Sovereign of the world; *who doſt what thou pleaſeſt in heaven and in earth*; and delighteſt Pſal. 135. 6

most in acts of bounty, as all thy works every where declare; and art *full of compassion* Ecclus. 2. 11. *and mercy, long-suffering and very pitiful, and forgivest sins, and savest in time of affliction.* I acknowledge my self among the rest of thy creatures, to be most deeply indebted to thee: whose life thou hast prolonged to this time in much health, plenty and peace; together with the enjoyment of spiritual blessings in the Lord Jesus. I thank thee, and praise thee, all that is within me blesses thy holy name; to whose wise and good Providence I wholly refer my self for the time to come; placing my entire trust and confidence in thy Almighty Goodness, Faithfulness and Truth, which endures for ever.

I ought to receive with all thankfulness whatsoever comes from thy hand; and believe that to be good for me, which thy infinite wisdom and kindness orders and allots for my portion. Accordingly I accept with all humble and dutiful affection, this thy Fatherly chastisement. I acknowledge thy care of me, and submit to what thou wilt be pleased to lay upon me. If thou thinkest good to exercise me with a longer sickness, and to let the present indisposition of my body, proceed to a greater disorder; not my will, but thine, O heavenly Father, be done.

I only wait on thee for the comfortable presence of thy holy Spirit, to support my soul by faith, and hope, and patience, under all the pains I may endure. Lay no more upon me, O Father of mercies, than I shall be able to bear; and lay upon me what thou pleasest. Free me, for the present, from all murmering and repining thoughts; and for the future, make the sickness and anguish of my body, a blessed instrument to purge my spirit more perfectly from all pride and vanity, from all covetousness and worldly-

worldly-mindedneſs, and from all inordinate love of any of the pleaſures of this life.

I believe, O bleſſed Jeſus, that thou liveſt for ever, who ſufferedſt and diedſt for us: and that thou haſt a great compaſſion towards thoſe, who would gladly follow thee, though it be through ſufferings. Behold, O Lord, I commend my ſelf to thy mighty Love, deſiring above all things to be made conformable to thee, in meekneſs, in humility, in patience, in entire reſignation to God's holy will and pleaſure, and in perfect ſatisfaction in his Fatherly love and kindneſs, whatſoever my condition be.

I am ſenſible, O God, that I have not employed my time to the utmoſt advantage of my ſoul, and to thy honour and glory; but have waſted many precious hours, and ſeveral ways neglected my duty towards thee *, and been but an unprofitable part of this world; ſo that I am not worthy to continue any longer in it. But I hope thou wilt vouchſafe me thy gracious pardon, and receive me to mercy, if thou calleſt me hence (for into thy hands, O Father, I commend my ſpirit, who haſt redeemed me by the precious blood of Jeſus Chriſt,) And that if thou prolongeſt my days on earth, I ſhall ſerve thee with greater diligence and ſtrictneſs, and zeal, and chearfulneſs to the end of my life.

* *Here reckon up the ſins you may have committed.*

I deſire not to live, but that I may perfect holineſs in thy fear, and ſecure to my ſelf, by doing more good, an happy entertainment into the ſociety of the bleſſed, in the other world. I ſee already the emptineſs and inſufficiency of all enjoyments upon earth, *All fleſh is graſs, and all the goodneſs of it, as the flower of the field. The graſs*

graſs withereth, the flower fadeth:
Iſa. 40. 7. *But thy word ſtandeth faſt for ever.*
Pſal. 119. 50. *In thy word* therefore, O Lord,
81. and gracious promiſes, *is my hope. This is my comfort in my affliction.*

And my perfect contentment, I ſee, lies always in thy love and favour alone, which is better than life it ſelf. O ſettle me in a certain and unmoveable poſſeſſion of it, by what means thou pleaſeſt. Do but love me, and preſerve me in a lively ſenſe of thy good will towards me, and diſpoſe of me as thou thinkeſt good. *In the multitude of my thoughts within me, thy comforts ſhall delight*
Pſal. 94. 19. *my ſoul.* I will *rejoyce* even *in* the
Rom. 5. 2. midſt of *tribulations, and glory in*
8. 28. *thy holy name, who makeſt all things work together for good to them that*
Pſal. 23. 3. *love thee. Though I walk through the*
30. 10. *ſhadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy power, and tender care, they ſhall comfort me.*

Accept, Good Lord, of theſe my deſires and reſolutions *Hear me, O God, and have mercy upon me. Lord be thou my helper*; for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake, my ever bleſſed Redeemer. *Amen.*

IT will be ſeaſonable here to put the Devout Reader in mind, that when he is in diſtreſs, and deſires Mercy of GOD; it ought to excite his charity to others that are in miſery, and diſpoſe him to ſhew mercy to them. For though that be not Canonical Scripture which we read, Tob. 12. 9. Alms doth deliver from death, *yet this is*: With the merciful, GOD will ſhew himſelf merciful. (*Pſal.* 18. 25.) Bleſſed is he that conſidereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. (*Pſal.* 41. 1, 2, 3.) *If he do not* preſerve him and keep him alive; *yet* the Lord will ſtrengthen him upon the bed of languiſhing; he will make all his bed in his ſickneſs. *Therefore as thou recommendeſt thy ſelf to GOD, and deſireſt others to pray with thee, ſo remember that,* Prayer is good with faſting, and alms, and righteouſneſs, *Tob.* 12. 8.

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family, with the Sick *perſon.*

O Lord, the Father of our ſpirits; who *giveſt* to us and all creatures, *life and breath, and all things.* We, ſinful duſt and aſhes, bluſh to lift up our eyes unto heaven, when we conſider our vaſt diſtance from thee; and reflect upon thy unſpotted holineſs, and our impurity; thy infinite wiſdom, and our wretched folly; thy power, and our weakneſs; thy Eternity of life, and our ſhort continuance. *We are but of yeſterday, and know nothing, becauſe our days upon earth are a ſhadow. When thou with rebukes doſt correct man for iniquity, thou makeſt his beauty to conſume away like a moth: Surely every man is vanity.*

Job 8. 9.
Pſal. 39. 11.
Job 25. 6.

But ſo great is thy condeſcending grace, that thou haſt aſſured us thou wilt not deſpiſe ſuch worms as we are. Nay, thou haſt encouraged us; bleſſed be thy goodneſs, to approach unto thee with ſome confidence, that thou wilt mercifully receive us, though we have highly offended thy Divine Majeſty: Having ſent thy dear Son into the world to ſave ſinners; to purifie our natures; to endue us with a divine underſtanding; to ſtrengthen our weakneſs; and to comfort us with the hope of an immortal life.

Behold, O Lord, the oblation which we make to thee of moſt thankful hearts, devoted to thy ſervice: whoſe love and tender mercies have ſo exceedingly abounded towards us. We will praiſe thee, and glorifie thee as long as we have any being, for this great ſalvation which Chriſt Jeſus hath

hath brought to light by his reſurrection from the dead to an Eternal Kingdom in the Heavens. We are humbly bold to hope in thee, that thou who *haſt not ſpared thy own Son, but delivered him up for us all, wilt with him* Rom. 8. 32. *alſo, freely give us all things.* O thou *Father of mercies, and God of all comfort,* who haſt not thought a Crown of everlaſting life and glory too much to promiſe us: we belief that thou wilt not deny us what is needful and fit for us, both for our ſouls and our bodies, in our paſſage through this world to that honour, glory and immortality.

In this confidence we more particularly recommend this thy ſick ſervant to thy infinite and moſt compaſſionate mercy. Settle in *his* * ſoul a ſtedfaſt faith, that thou *doſt not willingly grieve the children of men*; but intendeſt good to *him* by this affliction. And now that other pleaſures and enjoyments fail *him*, repreſent thy ſelf effectually unto *him*, as his true happineſs and ſatisfaction. Wherein ſoever *he* hath neglected thee, or committed any offence againſt thee, make *him* deeply ſenſible of, and heartily ſorrowful for, *his* folly. And as *he* earneſtly deſires pardon and forgiveneſs of thee; ſo work in him a ſerious reſolution to live more circumſpectly and exactly in time to come. Aſſiſt *him* graciouſly, O Lord, that *he* may give a proof of *his* ſincere intentions hereafter to ſubmit *himſelf* in all things to thy will, by *his* patient ſubmiſſion to thy fatherly correction now. O that *he* may ſo quietly, ſo meekly, ſo humbly and chearfully reſign *his* will unto thee, to ſuffer what thou inflicteſt; that *he* may be the more diſpoſed readily to denie *his* own deſires in doing whatſoever thou commandeſt.

* Or her.

For which end make *him* throughly apprehenſive of thy ſovereign power and authority over all creatures,

tures. Poſſeſs *him* with a great reverence of thy wiſdom and juſtice; with an entire confidence in thy goodneſs and charity; and with a thankful remembrance of all thy paſt mercies to *him*, which have been innumerable. That ſo *he* may the better endure what thou layeſt upon *him* at preſent; and ever chuſe to follow thy directions, and ſubmit to thy orders, and love thy commandments, and delight to do thy will, O God.

Bleſs and ſucceed thoſe remedies that are uſed for the reſtoring *him* to *his* former health; that *he* may live to perform *his* holy purpoſes. Or if thou haſt otherwiſe appointed, accept of them graciouſly; and diſpoſe *him* to return back *his* ſpirit willingly unto thee, who gaveſt it; and with great humility and deep ſenſe of *his* own undeſervings to expect thy mercy declared in Chriſt Jeſus, who hath ſo highly merited of thee. Fix *his* mind ſtedfaſtly upon him, who hath led the way through the grave unto heaven: that he may not be affrighted with approaches of death; but looking beyond it to that high and holy place where the Lord Jeſus is, may rejoyce in hope of thy eternal glory.

And give every one of us in our beſt eſtate of health, to conſider perpetually how frail and weak we are. That ſo we may not abuſe our ſelves by an intemperate uſe of any of the pleaſures of ſenſe; nor load our minds with the cares of this life; nor ſpend our days in a vain purſuit of the honour and glory of this world: But may *paſs all the time of our ſojourning here in fear*; and live ſo *ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent world*, as becomes thoſe who expect ſhortly to give an account to thee, who wilt judge all men according to their works. Hear us, O Lord, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, through Chriſt Jeſus our merciful and compaſſionate

1 Pet. 1. 17.
Tit. 2. 12.

High

High Priest; who sits at thy right hand, and lives for ever to make intercession for us. In whose name we continue still to recommend our selves, and friends, and all thy people to thee, as he hath taught us; saying;

Our Father, &c.

A Shorter.

WE prostrate our selves before thee, O Lord of heaven and earth; acknowledging that we are but dust and ashes at the best, and have made our selves sinful dust and ashes; utterly unworthy to speak unto thee, either for our selves, or for others. We most humbly and earnestly beg thy gracious pardon; and beseech thee, for Jesus Christ his sake, to accept of our unfeigned sorrow for what is past, and of our sincere purposes by thy gracious assistance (which we know thou wilt not deny us) to live more soberly, righteously, and godly for the time to come.

More particularly we implore thy grace and favour towards this thy sick servant; in whom we see how weak and frail we all are. Work in *him* * a true and hearty repentance for all the sins *he* hath commited, in thought word or deed, against thy Divine Majesty. Give *him* a lively and stedfast faith in thy Son Jesus, who died for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. Fill *him* with a reviving hope of that immortal life, which he hath purchased and promised; and with a powerful sense of thy fatherly love to *him*, and tender care over *him*, in the most afflicted condition. Let *him* feel thou lovest *him*, by thy heavenly supports and comforts vouchsafed to *him* from above; and by bestowing on *him* per-

* Or *her*.

perfect patience, and absolute submission to thee, during this sickness.

We know there is nothing impossible with thee; but that *if* thou wilt, thou canst raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance in this world. O that it may be thy gracious pleasure to restore *him* to us! may it please thee to save *him* and deliver *him*, for thy goodness sake, O Lord. Bless all the means that are used for *his* preservation, and make them effectual. Rebuke his disease by thy All-powerful Word, and command it to leave *him*. And in the mean time, help *him* meekly to resign *himself* to thy wisdom, and humbly to confide in thy loving kindness; and quietly to wait upon thee, for ease and refreshment at present, and for perfect health and strength at last.

Which we earnestly beseech thee, in thy good time to bestow upon *him*, for the sake of him who is the *Resurrection and the life*, the Healer and Repairer of our decayed Nature, the Saviour both of soul and body, our Compassionate Intercessor with thee, who can have a feeling of all our infirmities and miseries, and we believe is always ready to succour those who in all their troubles make him their Refuge: To whom, with thee, O Father Almighty, in the Unity of the same eternal Spirit, be all honour and glory, thanksgiving and praise, submission and reverence, love and observance, cheerful service and hearty obedience, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be said by the Family or Friends when a Sickness continues long.

BEhold, O Lord, thy poor unworthy servants, who here most humbly bow themselves unto thee; acknowledging that we deserve not to live, nor to have the least regard from thee in our distress, whom we so much neglected when we enjoyed our hearts desire. Be merciful unto us, O Lord, be merciful unto us, for the sake of him, who shed his own most precious bloud for the salvation of returning sinners. We come unto thee with sorrowful hearts, bewailing our foolish wandrings from thee; and with sincere love, vowing more faithful obedience hereafter to thee.

Blessed be thy Goodness, that we have such good hope thou wilt not cast us off; but restore us again into grace and favour. It encourages us to hope in thee also for this thy sick servant, here lying under thy hand in great weakness of body. Look graciously upon *him* (or *her*) O Lord, and *now that* his *outward man is much decayed, strengthen* him, *we beseech thee, so much the more by the grace of thy holy spirit in* his *inward man.* Give *him* unfeigned repentance for all the errors of *his* life past; a stedfast faith in thy Son Jesus; a comfortable assurance of the truth of all his precious promises; a lively hope of that immortal bliss, in which he reigns for evermore; and a strong sense of thy fatherly love to *him*, and care over *him*, under this sore and grievous affliction: which may make *him* heartily love thee, and entirely confide in thee, and absolutely resign both soul and body to thy wise disposal.

We

We know there is nothing too hard for thee; but that, if thou wilt, thou canſt bring *him* up, even from the gates of death, and grant *him* a longer continuance among us. May it be thy good pleaſure, O moſt gracious God, ſtill to continue *him*! Spare *him*, O Lord, and deliver *him* alſo ſpeedily from this miſery, under which he hath ſo long groaned. Bleſs all the means that are uſed for his recovery; and for the ſupport of *his* ſpirits, and giving *him* refreſhment, during this tedious ſickneſs. Releaſe *him* from *his* pain, or grant *him* ſome eaſe; or elſe encreaſe and ſtrengthen *his* patience. Help *him*, in remembrance of thy paſt loving-kindneſs, to truſt in thy goodneſs, and ſubmit to thy wiſdom, and bear with an equal mind, what thou thinkeſt fit to lay upon *him*: that *he* approving *himſelf* to thee, in theſe and all other virtues, while thou trieſt *him* by ſo ſore an affliction, may ſay at the laſt, it was good for me that I was in trouble.

Unto thy infinite Mercies we recommend *him*; and to the compaſſionate kindneſs of our Lord Jeſus. Who we hope will hear all the prayers of his Friends for *him* every where; and ſend his good Spirit to be *his* Comforter, and his good Angels to be *his* Guardians, and direct thoſe who are to adviſe and preſcribe the means of *his* reſtauration, and bring *him* to praiſe thee again in the aſſemblies of thy Saints on earth; or, if thou haſt otherwiſe diſpoſed in thy wiſe Counſels, to praiſe thee in the great aſſembly of Saints and Angels in heaven; through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord and only Saviour; to whom with thee and thy holy Spirit, be all praiſe, and love and obedience, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family or Friends, when the ſick perſon **wants ſleep.**

ADored be thy Love, thy wonderful Love, O moſt gracious God, who haſt ſo many ways expreſſed thy bounty towards us. Thy mercies in Chriſt Jeſus ſurpaſs all our thoughts. Nor are we able to number all the other bleſſings, thou haſt beſtowed on us. How much do we owe thee, for the quiet ſleep of but one night! We ſee in this thy poor afflicted ſervant, how much we ought to thank thee for this ſingle bleſſing; that our eyes, when we would cloſe them, are not held waking.

Pardon, Good Lord, our foul ingratitude for this and all the reſt of thy undeſerved mercies. And be pleaſed graciouſly alſo to viſit *him**, who ſtill languiſhes on *his* ſick-bed; looking up to thee, from whom cometh our help. Renew *his* waſted ſpirits with comfortable ſleep. Compoſe *him* to a ſweet and undiſturbed reſt. Refreſh *him* thereby ſo ſenſibly, that *he* may be reſtored to ſuch a degree of ſtrength, as may make *him* able, in ſome meaſure, affectionately to acknowledge thy goodneſs, when thou haſt dealt ſo bountifully with *him*.

* *Or her.*

Or if thou delayeſt to beſtow that bleſſing on *him*; O God, that in the multitude of his thoughts within *him*, thy comforts may delight *his* ſoul. If he be ſtill toſſed upon a weariſome bed without any reſt, O that *his* Mind may reſt and repoſe it ſelf in the boſom of thy deareſt love; and may feel the moſt ſenſible conſolations from heaven, not only quieting, but greatly rejoycing *his* heart. Preſerve the

the uſe of *his* underſtanding, and let the enemy hav
no advantage of him: But make *him* able to ſay,
will wait patiently for the Lord, an
Pſal. 40. 1. *he incline his ear unto me, and hea*
my cry.
O *hear* his *prayer*, O *Lord*, *and give ear unto h*
cry. O *ſpare* him *that* he *may recov*
Pſ. 39. 12, 13. *ſtrength, before he go hence and be n*
more
Amen, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family o Friends, when the ſick perſon grow light-headed.

O Lord, look down from heaven in much pit and compaſſion, upon this thy afflicted Servant, who is not able now to look up unto thee. The fad der his * condition grows, the fitter ob
* *Or her.* ject it is of thy infinite tender mercies. Who acceptedſt, we believe, of the Sub miſſion *he* made of *himſelf*, in the beginning of h ſickneſs, to thy Almighty wiſdom and goodneſs: An therefore, ſince it is thy pleaſure to ſuffer *his* diſtem per to proceed to this dangerous extremity, wilt n leſs graciouſly love *him*, and delight in *him*, than *he* could ſtill give up *himſelf* to thy bleſſed will.

And hear, O moſt merciful Father, our praye in *his* behalf. Excite them alſo to a greater ardent than ever for *him*, now that *he* can no longer com mend *himſelf* to thy mercies. Pardon, Good Lor pardon all *his* ſins. Impute not to *him* any of h former follies. Lay not to *his* charge *his* not im proving, or any ways miſ-uſing of *his* reaſon an

under

understanding. Which we earneſtly, but humbly intreat thee to reſtore to *him*, together with ſuch a meaſure of thy divine grace, as may quicken and aſſiſt *him* then to employ *his* thoughts to the beſt purpoſes: eſpecially in meditating of thy mercies, in ſtudying thy praiſe, and in exhorting all others to love thee, and truſt thee, and ſincerely obey thee.

And while *he* remains thus deprived of *his* reaſon, be pleaſed to quiet and compoſe *his* ſpirits, or to prevent all furious motions there, or quickly to abate ſuch violent paſſions, if any ariſe. For which end be pleaſed to remove all frightful imaginations far from *him*; and ſuffer not the evil one to approach *him*; preſerve *him* from doing any harm, either to *himſelf*, or to any other. *Forſake* him *not*, O *Lord*; O *our God*, *be not far from* him. *Make haſte to help* him, O *Lord our Salvation*. *He is poor and needy, but the Lord thinketh on* him: *Thou art our helper and deliverer, make no tarrying, O our God. So will we all give thanks unto thee for ever. We will be ſtill praiſing thee; and ſhewing forth thy loving kindneſs to thoſe who ſucceed us. That they may ſet their hope in thee our God; and not forget thy works, but keep thy commandments.* Pſ. 38. 21, 22. Pſal. 40. 7. Pſal. 78. 17. Pſal. 79. 13.

Amen, *Amen*; make us all ſo happy for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake. *Amen*.

A Prayer to be ſaid by any pious perſon for a Sick Neighbour.

O Moſt gracious God, who by thy Son Jeſus haſt knit us all together in one body; that we ſhould love one another; and *whether one member ſuffer*,

ſuffer, all the members ſhould ſuffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the reſt ſhould rejoyce with it. I humbly implore thy tender mercies toward *N. N.* of whoſe afflicted condition I deſire to have a compaſſionate ſenſe and feeling.

Look graciouſly upon *him* *, O Lord, and viſit him with thy ſalvation. Vouchſafe *him* ſuch conſolations from above, as I ſhould deſire for my ſelf, were I in *his* eſtate. Give him a true penitent heart for all the offences *he* hath at any time committed: together with a lively faith in thy Son Jeſus, who came into the world to ſave ſinners. Give *him* the comfort of a holy hope that thou acceptedſt *his* repentance, and faithful devotion to thee. Support *him* by this hope, under all his pains. And enable *him* patiently to ſubmit to thy fatherly correction. Send *him* help now in time of need both for *his* ſoul and for *his* body. Bleſs the means of *his* recovery. And if it be thy good pleaſure, reſtore *him* ſpeedily to *his* former health; together with a ſerious reſolution in *his* heart, to ſerve thee more zealouſly all *his* days.

Or if thou haſt otherwiſe reſolved in thy wiſe Counſels, deliver *him* from the fear of death, aſſiſt *him* in *his* laſt agony; give *him* an eaſie and chearful paſſage out of this life; and ſend thy holy Angels to conduct *him* into reſt and peace with our Lord Jeſus. To whom with thee, O Father of mercies, and thy holy Spirit, be given all honour, glory and praiſe, by all creatures in heaven and earth, from this time forth and for evermore. *Amen.*

* Or her.

IF the Diſeaſe proceed to ſuch an extremity, that in all appearance the Soul is ready to depart, there is a Commendatory Prayer *appointed in the Publick Offices of Devotion, to be ſaid by the Miniſter, whoſe aſſiſtance then ſure will be deſired. And beſides, the ſick perſon himſelf, as long as he is able, may thus recommend his ſoul unto Almighty God.*

A Prayer when a perſon is giving up the Ghoſt.

I Reſign my ſpirit, O God, moſt chearfully into thy hands: hoping to find mercy with thee through Chriſt Jeſus. I know no other name under heaven whereby I may be ſaved, but thine alone, O bleſſed Jeſus; who *waſt dead, and art alive again, and liveſt for evermore.* Rev. 1. 18. I come unto thee, O Lord, confiding in thy moſt precious promiſes, (which I believe are *faithful and true* as thou art) for pardon and for immortal life.

Accept, I beſeech thee, of my moſt hearty thanks for all thy mercies to me, from the beginning of my life to this moment. Paſs by all my ingratitude and diſobedience. Receive me into the company of the *ſpirits of juſt men made perfect*, to give thee thanks for ever.

And as I desire to find mercy with thee; so I forgive all my enemies: Beseeching thee likewise to forgive them; and to bless and comfort all my friends, and to make thy whole Church glorious; and to bring us all at last to live together in everlasting love and joy, through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

An Act of Resignation when a Friend *is dead.*

I Adore thee, O Lord, I bow my very will, with my whole soul to thee; *whose judgments are unsearchable, and whose ways are past finding out.* I believe thou intendest to do me good, even by denying my earnest, and so often repeated desires. *I will bless the Lord* therefore *at all times. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

I have received innumerable good things from thy hands, O Father of mercies, why should I not receive those that are evil? *The Cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?* I humbly take it from thy hands, O my God, and submit to thy wise dispensation. I return to thee back again that which thou so lovingly bestowedst upon me, with my most hearty thanks for lending me the enjoyment of it so long. Do but pardon all my ingratitude, all the omissions of my duty, and whatsoever I have done contrary to it; and I shall endeavour to *rejoyce in thee always*, and still to be praising thee under the sharpest chastisements, which are less than I deserve.

Blessed

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that I am not without hope of this gracious pardon. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that thou haſt not taken away thy holy Spirit from me. Yea, bleſſed be that goodneſs, that hath left me ſtill ſo many worldly bleſſings; which many want, and have loſt their deareſt Relations too. It is of the Lord's mercy, that Lovers, Friends and Acquaintance, together with all other comforts of this life, are not quite gone away from me, and removed into darkneſs. Bleſſed be God, that I am not groaning on a ſick Bed, and that I languiſh not under the moſt tedious pains [*bleſſed be God, that I want not my daily bread, that I am not oppreſſed with debt, that I lye not in priſon, or am not turned out of doors, having no certain dwelling place.*] Yea, bleſſed be God that all my days have not been ſo miſerable, as ſome few have been. Bleſſed be God that the days which I and *He* *, (who hath now left me) ſpent together, were not all bitterneſs and ſorrow; but were ſweetned by the enjoyment of many, very many good things.

* Or She.

O my ſoul, never ceaſe to bleſs the Lord; *forget not all his benefits.* Eſpecially his great love, his exceeding great love, in Chriſt Jeſus: by whom he hath provided a remedy for all our griefs, and comforted us with the hope of another and better life, where there is no death, nor any pain or ſorrow, but all tears ſhall be wiped away from our eyes.

To thee I flee, O Bleſſed Jeſus, who art my beſt and my eternal Friend. To thee who knoweſt our frame, and canſt have compaſſion on our infirmities. Moſt humbly beſeeching thee, to bear me up under this ſore affliction, in a thankful remembrance of all thy mercies. Yea, draw up my heart thereby, more towards heaven; where thou, my Life,

art [where I hope my *Husband*, *Wife* or *Friend* i
where I hope to be when thou ſhalt call me awa
from hence: There to ſing thy praiſes with in
ceſſant joy, in the company of all thy Saints, an
of the holy Angels. *Amen*, *Amen*.

A Prayer when there is ſome Hope *of the ſick man's* Recovery.

WE caſt down our ſelves before thee, O Fa
ther of mercies, and God of all comfor
to implore thy grace and favour towards this thy ſe
vant; who ſtill lies under thy hand in great weak
neſs of body. We thank thee, O Lord,
* *Or She.* that *He* *, is no weaker; but, though
he be brought very low, we have ſome
hope thou wilt raiſe *him* up again. Bleſſed be th
goodneſs, that *he* is not gone down into ſilence, and
hath not made *his* bed in the duſt. Bleſſed be th
goodneſs.

O thou *Preſerver of men*, who haſt begun to re
vive and quicken *him* again; go on to perfect tha
which belongs to *his* cure, and forſake not the wo
of thy own hands. Repair all the decays in h
outward man; that *his* mind may alſo recover i
former ſtrength, to praiſe and bleſs thy goodneſs
him.

And viſit *him* in the mean time with thy heaven
conſolation from above. Fill *him* with comfortab
thoughts of thy love, and of the tender compaſſiona
care, which our Lord Jeſus takes of all his afflicte
ſervants. Endue *him* ſtill with more patient ſubmi
ſion to thy will. And enable *him* both quietly t
wait upon thee, till thou haſt finiſhed *his* recovery
and alſo to continue ſtedfaſtly reſolved to ſerv
the

thee more faithfully with *his* reſtored ſtrength, through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. By whom, and with whom, in the Unity of the Holy Ghoſt, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving for the beginning *of a* Recovery.

O Moſt great and mighty Lord, *who killeſt and makeſt alive, who bringeſt down to the grave, and bringeſt up again.* 1 Sam. 2. 6. We thy poor Creatures, (moſt infinitely obliged to be thy faithful ſervants) who have ſo often ſorrowfully caſt down our ſelves before thee, to implore thy mercy towards this our afflicted Friend; do now moſt joyfully fall upon our knees, to thank thee with one accord, for the gracious audience thou haſt given to our prayers. Deſiring to have our hearts raiſed to as great a degree of fervent love to thee, as they were of paſſionate deſires that thou wouldſt ſpare *him** from going down to the grave.

* *Or Her.*

Bleſſed be God, who *hath not turned away our prayer, nor his mercy from us.* Bleſſed be God for preſerving our Dear Friend, who is ſtill in the land of the living. Bleſſed be thy wonderful goodneſs (which we will never forget) who haſt, in ſome meaſure, turned our heavineſs into joy, and our mourning into gladneſs. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, who haſt begun to lift *him* up from the gates of death, and reſtor d *him* to ſome degree of health. Yea, bleſſed be that goodneſs, which did not forſake *him* in *his* ſickneſs; but viſited *him* with

comforts from above, ſupported *him* in patience and ſubmiſſion to thy will, ſent *him* ſeaſonable relief, and proſpered the endeavours of thoſe, who conſulted for his preſervation.

We hope we ſhall never ceaſe to ſpeak of thy loving kindneſs; but be ſtill praiſing thee, whoſe mercy endures for ever. Who we hope alſo will proceed to conſummate thy mercy towards *him*, by raiſing *him* up to praiſe thee together with us, in perfect health of body, and vigour of mind, and chearfulneſs of ſpirit.

For which end be pleaſed ſtill to direct and bleſs the Medicines that are preſcribed for the perfecting of *his* cure. Succeed them, O Lord, that *he* may be able at laſt to go into thy houſe, to offer thee an oblation with great gladneſs; and to bleſs thy holy Name for thy wonderful works towards *him*, and towards the children of men: through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Saviour, to whom, with thee, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen*.

IF God be pleaſed to reſtore the ſick perſon to a ſtate of Health, publick Thankſgiving ought to be rendred to Almighty GOD for it. And together with the Sacrifice of praiſe, which is the fruit of *our* lips, (*Heb.* 13. 15,16.) *he ought not to* forget to do good, and to communicate *to them that are in miſery:* for with ſuch ſacrifices GOD is well pleaſed. *And to preſerve a grateful remembrance of GOD's mercy; here follows a Form of Thankſgiving to be uſed in private by himſelf, and by his friends, that are concerned in his recovery.*

A Thankſgiving after recovery from a **Sickneſs**, *to be ſaid by the perſon himſelf who is reſtored to health.*

O God, the fountain of life and of all good; who art continually more and more pouring forth thy benefits upon us. I thy poor creature, whoſe life thou haſt mercifully ſpared when I deſerved to be cut off, proſtrate my ſelf, in an humble ſenſe of thy divine goodneſs, to render thee my moſt hearty

thanks, and to renew my vows, which I made in the day of my distress.

Psal. 103. 1, 2, 3, &c. *Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Who forgiveth all*

Psal. 34. 8. *thine iniquities: who healeth all thy diseases. Who redeemeth thy life from*

Psal. 118. 17, 18. *destruction: who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies. Who satisfieth thy mouth with good*

Psal. 111. 1. *things: so that thy youth is renewed like the Eagles. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with me after my sins; nor rewarded me according to my iniquities. But as far as the East is from the West: so far hath he removed my transgressions from me. O taste and see, my soul, how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.*

I will give thanks therefore *unto the Lord with my whole heart; secretly among the faithful, and in the congregation.* I can do no less than dedicate this new life, which thou hast bestowed upon me, entirely to thy service: resolving to employ more vigorously all those powers of soul and body, which are so graciously restored unto me, unto thy honour and glory.

For which end I most earnestly desire to have a lively sense preserved in my mind, of those things which were most powerful to move my heart towards thee, in the time of my sickness. O that this world may ever appear unto me, as it was then represented to my mind! That I may never set my heart too much upon these perishing enjoyments, and

and ſhort ſatisfactions; nor ever neglect thee, whoſe favour and grace I then ſought ſo earneſtly as my chiefeſt good: but remembring how little comfort could find in any thing here; what a joy it was to have any hope in thee, the eternal God; and how that *in my beſt eſtate I am but altogether vanity*; I may moſt ſeriouſly apply my ſelf *to work out my ſalvation with fear and trembling*; and give all diligence to ſettle a ſtedfaſt hope in thee, that never may be ſhaken.

Make me often to remember that *my days are but like a ſhadow that declineth, and that I wither like the graſs. But thou, O Lord, ſhalt endure for ever, for thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhall have no end.* That ſo I may neither ſeek my happineſs in this dying life, but in thy endleſs love and favour; nor *be ſlothful in buſineſs; but fervent in ſpirit, ſerving the Lord.* Pſal. 102. 11, 12, 27. Rom. 12. 11.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that I feel theſe holy thoughts and deſires ſtill remaining in me. Excite me, I humbly beſeech thee, continually to renew them: that no day may paſs without ſerious reflections upon thy patient and long-ſuffering kindneſs towards me; upon the ſhortneſs of this life; the uncertainty of all earthly comforts; and the happineſs of having a good hope in thee, by ſtedfaſt continuance in well doing. And let theſe thoughts be ſo deeply imprinted in my heart; that my affections may be weaned thereby from all things here below, and ſet on things above, where Chriſt is at thy right hand.

O that I may deſire and covet thoſe heavenly things for my portion, more than I do to eat and drink, or enjoy any other pleaſure of this life. Make me to rejoyce in them, more than in a whole world of other comforts: And to ſtand in greater

fear of loſing them than I do to die, or endure any miſery. Preſerve in me, good Lord, ſuch a ſober and conſiderate diſpoſition of mind, that I may never be proud, who am, I ſee, but duſt and aſhes: nor confident of my own ſtrength and power, which is but weakneſs and vanity: nor diſtruſtful of thee, who art ſo gracious and merciful, as well as mighty to ſave. Suffer me not to ſink under any diſcouragements, who have the everlaſting arms under me, the wiſdom of heaven to direct and guide me, and the infinite treaſures of goodneſs to ſupply all my neceſſities.

And more particularly, I beſeech thee to give me grace by my late confinement, weakneſs, dulneſs, want of appetite and reſt, to learn to value very highly the benefits of liberty, ſtrength and quickneſs of all my ſenſes; and to bleſs thee, more than ever I have done, for the conſtant refreſhments of my food in the day, and of undiſturbed ſleep in the night, together with the reſt of the pleaſures of life, to which thou haſt reſtored me with my health.

Make me perfectly contented in any ſtate and condition, whilſt I enjoy ſo great a bleſſing as that which comprehends ſo many others in it. And when thou art pleaſed to take it again away from me; O that I may be able to be contented then alſo, in a remembrance of all thy paſt kindneſſes to me, and of a well ſpent life, and careful improvement of this renewed health; and in hope of thy continued mercies to me in Chriſt Jeſus, even to eternal life. To which I humbly beſeech thee to bring me by an unchangeable love and obedience to thee in all the changes and alterations of this mortal life; for his ſake who loved me and gave himſelf for me. To whom with thy ſelf, in the Unity of the ſame ſpirit, be glory everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving to be ſaid by the Family.

O Moſt holy, great and glorious God; the Almighty Creator of heaven and earth: who upholdeſt all things by the word of thy power, and governeſt the whole world with admirable wiſdom, juſtice and mercy. Thou deſerveſt the higheſt acknowledgments of all thy creatures. The Praiſes of Angels are not worthy of thee: nor any of their thoughts equal to thy infinite Majeſty. What can we vile creatures then ſpeak of thee; or what thoughts ſhall we frame of thy perfections? Eſpecially of the tranſcendent love, which hath moved thee in much compaſſion to conſider our weakneſſes, and help our infirmities? Thou haſt taught us by our Lord Jeſus what we ſhould think of thee: having vouchſafed to dwell among us, and make thy ſelf viſible unto us, not only as the moſt Wiſe, and Mighty; but as the moſt Holy, Righteous, Gracious and Merciful Lord, who deſigneſt the greateſt bleſſings to us.

But now that we ſee thee, we have the greateſt reaſon to abhor our ſelves in duſt and aſhes; when we conſider how unlike we are unto thee in thoſe excellent qualities, wherein thou haſt made thy ſelf known unto us; and how unthankful we have been unto thy divine goodneſs, which hath ſo ſtrangely condeſcended unto us; who are unworthy of the leaſt regard from thee. And yet ſuch is thy tender mercy and pity towards us, that thou haſt declared thy ſelf willing to entertain even the greateſt ſinners into thy favour by making them better. We our ſelves have received innumerable tokens of thy great clemency, patience and forbearance. And now lately thou haſt been pleaſed to give us a

new.

new inſtance of thy loving kindneſs, and of thy deſire to win our hearts unto thee, in reſcuing one of us from going down into the grave, and reſtoring *him* to health and ſtrength again.

Iſa. 38. 19. Pſal. 104. 33. Pſal. 86. 12. 13. Pſal. 118. 14, 15. *The living, the living, O Lord, ſhall praiſe thee as we do this day: Yea, we will bleſs thy name as long as we live, and ſing praiſes unto thee, as long as we have any being. We will praiſe thee, O Lord our God with all our heart: and glorifie thy Name for evermore. For great is thy mercy towards us: and thou haſt delivered* the ſoul of thy ſervant *from the loweſt hell. The Lord is our ſtrength and our ſong: and is become our ſalvation. The voice of joy and health is in our dwellings: the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to paſs.*

O that there were ſuch an heart in every one of us, as to ſtudy ſeriouſly to know thee better, to meditate continually on thy benefits both to our ſouls and bodies, to love thee entirely, and to endeavour to be like unto thee; which is the deſign of thy goodneſs towards us. Empty our hearts of all other things; and make room for thy ſelf to dwell there, in wiſdom, righteouſneſs and true holineſs.

Common-Prayer-Book, in the Commination. Diſpoſe every one of us to follow Jeſus Chriſt our Maſter *in lowlineſs, patience and charity; and to be ordered by the governance of his holy Spirit; ſeeking always his glory and ſerving him duly in our vocation with thankſgiving.*

Help us ſo to employ our time in our health, proſperity and pleaſure, that we may have nothing to trouble us in the time of ſickneſs, affliction and ſorrow; But we may quietly and chearfully bear what thou layeſt upon us; *looking unto Je-*

ſus,

ſus, who for the joy that was ſet before him endured the croſs, deſpiſing the ſhame, and is ſet down at thy right hand.

O bleſſed Lord, deny us not the conſtant aſſiſtance of the Holy Ghoſt, to cheriſh, confirm and ſtrengthen our holy reſolutions; to ſucceed our pious endeavours; to give us a quick ſenſe of all thy mercies, and a lively remembrance of all thy fatherly chaſtiſements; whereby we may be more and more excited to diligence, watchfulneſs, and zeal in thy ſervice. Preſerve us from a ſlothful and negligent ſpirit; and awaken in us ſuch a ſenſe of thee, and of our duty to thee, that we may ſearch after thy Will diligently, and believe it heartily, and practiſe it carefully, and watch againſt all temptations heedfully, and pray fervently, and frequently, and ponder ſeriouſly and throughly all the inſtructions we have received from thee, and our many and great obligations to thee.

O that it may be our choice to attend on thee; and that our hearts may be ſtill with thee, when our neceſſities require our attendance to other things! That ſo we may not be too deeply engaged in the affairs of this life, to the prejudice of the eternal life of our ſouls: but we may go on to make it our great buſineſs to be truly godly, according to the pattern which our Lord hath left us; till we be fit to be lifted up to that high and holy place where we believe he is, and ſee the glory which thou haſt given him.

Now to him that *holdeth our ſoul in life, and ſuffereth not our feet to be moved*; to the *God of our ſalvation, to whom belong the iſſues from death, who hath turned our heavineſs into joy, and put off our mourning, and girded us with gladneſs*; to him *that doth wondrous things, the only wiſe God our Saviour, be glory and majeſty, dominion and power, both now and ever.* Amen. Pſal. 66. 9. 68. 20. 30. 11. Jude 25.

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A Parent's Prayer for a Sick *Child.*

O Lord, by whoſe infinite goodneſs I was brought into this world, and by whoſe indulgent care I have been continued here unto this time; in the enjoyment of a great many bleſſings, of the leaſt of which I am unworthy. I thank thee that to all other comforts of this life thou haſt added the gift of this child; whom thou haſt preſerved in its birth, and ever ſince, by a marvellous providence. I am ſenſible that all I have is thine; and that I am but intruſted with this, as with all other good things, which I muſt return to thee whenſoever thou pleaſeſt.

Lord, aſſiſt me with the grace of thy holy Spirit (which I know thou art more ready to give than any other bleſſing) that I may reſign this child to thee, if thou art pleaſed now to call for it, with an humble, contented, patient and thankful mind: believing thou knoweſt better what is good for me, than I do my ſelf; and wilt certainly recompence ſuch meek and quiet ſubmiſſion to thee, with as good or better enjoyments than thoſe thou takeſt away. But if thou thinkeſt good ſtill to prolong its days, and continue it with me; (which I moſt humbly beg of thy Divine Majeſty) Behold, O Lord, the unfeigned purpoſe of my heart, faithfully to diſcharge my truſt, and bring it up in the fear and nurture of our Lord.

Endue me with principles of true wiſdom and prudence, that I may educate it aright. Help me to give it a good example; and to uſe all diligence that it may *ſerve its generation according to thy will*, and at laſt be returned back to thee, wiſe, and pure, and juſt, and good; fit for the company

pany of the bleſſed in endleſs life. Unto thee, O Lord, I moſt heartily recommend both it and my ſelf; whoſe wiſdom knows where it is beſt to place thy creatures, whether in this, or in the other world; and whoſe goodneſs deſigns to make us happy in both. To thee, the only wiſe and good God, be all Praiſe, Honour, Glory and Thankſgiving; with Fear and Reverence, Love and chearful Obedience, both now and eternally. *Amen.*

Here

HEre follow Prayers, and Thanksgivings on ſundry other occaſions, which me may meet withal in the courſe of our life. In which it will be fit particularly to acknowledge GOD, and implore his mercy towards us. And let it be remembred, as I ſaid before, that it is a part of Chriſtian Piety to take care that alms and acts of Charity to others accompany our addreſſes to God. They are then certainly moſt ſeaſonable, when we deſire ſpecial favours from him, or return thanks for them. And hereby (*as old* Tobias *ſaid*, 4. 9, 11.) We lay up a good treaſure for our ſelves againſt the day of neceſſity. For alms is a good gift unto all them that give it, in the ſight of the moſt High.

A Prayer to be uſed by one that is going a long Journey.

O God, who art alike preſent unto all places: *who preſerveſt man and beaſt: for thou art good to all, and thy tender mercies are over all thy works.* Pſ. 36 6. *All thy works ſhall praiſe thee, O Lord, and thy Saints ſhall bleſs thee. They ſhall ſpeak of the glory of thy kingdom, and declare thy power.* Pſ. 145. 9, 10.

Bleſſed be thy name for the knowledge thou haſt given me, for thy wiſe and merciful providence encompaſſing all creatures. And more particularly I rejoyce in the revelation which thou haſt made, of thy Fatherly love and care over us the children of men, in Chriſt Jeſus: *Who makes his Angels Miniſtring Spirits for them that are heirs of Salvation.* Heb. 1. *ult.* In an hearty belief of thy holy Goſpel, and a ſincere reſolution to be obedient unto it in hope of that eternal life; I commit both my ſoul and body to thy moſt gracious protection: who *art the defender of all them that put their truſt in thee.* Pſ. 18. 30.

I truſt thee, O Lord, with my ſelf and all belonging to me. I entirely depend on thy goodneſs, to be with me and proſper me, in the way that I go. Give thy good Angels charge of me: And eſpecially accompany me with the preſence of thy holy Spirit, to preſerve my ſoul in ſafety, from all evil thoughts, deſires or paſſions, that may any way betray me in word or deed, to offend thy Divine Majeſty. Deliver me from the danger of any evil company into which I may fall: that I may not frame my ſelf to the humours of profane perſons, but by a pious

pious and discreet behaviour rather reprove them. And give me grace thankfully to embrace the company of those who are good, if I be blessed with it: that I may rejoyce in their society, and improve it to my increase in wisdom or pious affections towards thee.

Bless this habitation also, which I leave, and all remaining in it: that at what distance soever we be one from another, we may all live and walk in the same spirit of Faith, and Love, and Holiness. Give us an happy meeting together again in this place, if it be thy good will and pleasure, to pay thee the vows which I make of greater care and diligence in thy service, and greater charity towards all my neighbours. Howsoever, in the end of our pilgrimage, bring us all together in that blessed rest which thou hast prepared for thy people, after all their travels and labours, through thy mercy in Christ Jesus. To which I commend my self and all mine, both now and ever. *Amen.*

A short Prayer in ones Inne, or at the end of the Journey.

BLessed be thy goodness, O Lord my Creator and continual Preserver, by which I have been led in safety to this place; and am not only alive, but sound and unmaimed. To thee, O God, will I sing and give praise, who hast *dealt so*

Psal. 116. 1. *bountifully with me. For thou hast de-*
7, 8, 9. *livered my soul from death, mine eyes*
Gen. 15. 1. *from tears, and my feet from falling.*
17. 1. *I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice, and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will*

will I call upon him as long as I live. I will walk alſo with a perfect heart before the Lord; who is my ſhield, and my exceeding great reward.

Preſerve in me, I beſeech thee, a pious remembrance of all thy mercies, and of all thoſe holy reſolutions, which they excite in me. Take me ſtill into thy Almighty protection. Continue me in thy fear, and love, and faithful obedience. That having finiſhed this journey in peace, I may return to the place from whence I came, full of thankful affections to thee, and zealouſly diſpoſed to perform my vows, in a careful diſcharge of all the duties, which my place and relations require of me. And enable me, good Lord, ever to perform them with uprightneſs of heart and good will, as becomes the ſervant of Chriſt Jeſus.

To the ſame merciful Providence which hath watched over me all this day, I commend my ſelf, and all my relations and friends, every where, this night: Beſeeching thee to awaken in me in the morning, the ſame love, and thankfulneſs, and humble confidence, which I now find, and deſire ever to have, in my heart towards thee, my gracious Father, Saviour and Deliverer. To whom be glory, honour and praiſe everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Prayer in caſe of any hurt from Thieves, or otherwiſe.

O Moſt merciful Father, for ſo I ought ever to acknowledge thee, without whom, one of the ſmalleſt creatures cannot fall to the ground, and to whom we are of more value than many of them; I

Matth. 10. 29.

hum-

humbly and meekly ſubmit my ſelf to this croſs in my way, which thou in thy wiſdom haſt ſuffered to befal me. I know that thou art able to make even this, with all other things, work together for my good. And therefore I beſeech thee but graciouſly to pardon my ſins which deſerve greater puniſhment, and to preſerve my ſoul ſtill in ſafety from all murmuring and repining at thy providence, by a ſtedfaſt faith and truſt in thee, and an abſolute reſignation to thy holy will and pleaſure; and I ſhall not ceaſe to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy name.

Help me to learn by this to live in a conſtant ſenſe of the uncertainty of all worldly hopes, to ſet my affections more perfectly on unchangeable enjoyments, and to place my happineſs only in chearful obedience and contented patience, in all eſtates and conditions of life. I remember that we are all but pilgrims and ſtrangers whilſt we are here; ſubject to many other changes and chances in this mortal life. And therefore whatſoever I, or thoſe I have left at home, may further ſuffer before my return, Lord, aſſiſt us all to take that patiently alſo: And as we have received ſo many good things from thee, to receive likewiſe that which is evil; giving thanks to thee the Father of mercies who haſt given us ſuch a good hope of perfect ſecurity, peace and joy in our heavenly Country, when we have done and endured all thy pleaſure. In the expectation of which bleſſed ſtate I will continually rejoyce; praying thee to purifie me more and more, that I may be prepared for it, and at laſt by thy mercy enter into it, to give thee eternal praiſes. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be said for a Friend in a Journey.

O God, whose Almighty Power, and wise Providence, and Omnipresent Goodness, is the security, support, and comfort of all those that know thee. It is the highest satisfaction of our souls to have a lively hope in thee of eternal life in the other world. And to be perswaded that thou lovest us, and wilt take care of us, and bless us whilst we continue here, and that nothing can befal us without the knowledge and consent of thy infinite goodness, gives the most solid peace and repose unto our spirits, in all the alterations and changes of this life. I rejoyce in the belief, that I live in a world, which is full of thee; that I am always under thy eye, and have thee near unto me; as to observe me, so to help protect and defend me.

And I beseech thee, fill the mind of *him**, who is now gone from me, with the same sense of thee; that *he* may carry along with *him* every where, this stedfast faith and hope in thee, as the stay, the rest and refreshment of his soul. How far soever *he* be from me, O that *he* may be nigh to thee, in frequent, serious thoughts of thee, and hearty love to thee, and perfect trust in thee, and a constant disposition of mind and will to do and be what thou pleasest. That travelling under the shadow of the Almighty, no harm may come to *him*: but even those things which we account the greatest mischiefs, if they shall betide *him*, may be humbly accepted by us all, with fear and reverence, and chearful submission to thee; as becomes those who profess our selves thy friends, as well as thy servants.

* *Or her.*

No

No Thieves, Murderers, or other evil persons o things, can approach *him*, I know, without thy leave: who governest and over-rulest the motions of every creature at thy pleasure, to which we ever ought to submit our own. But if thou thinkest good to restore *him* hither again untouched by any of them, Lord help us to be so much the more thankful to thee; who dealest with us according to our own hearts desire. O that the sense of thy goodness then, may so powerfully affect our hearts; that we may be moved thereby to a greater zeal and freedom of spirit in thy service, and be the more forward to imitate thee in doing good, and shewing mercy to all men! O that thy benefits may never slip out of our minds! O that the *meditation of them may be sweet* unto us! and we may learn thereby *to trust in thee at all times, and pour out our hearts before thee: for thou art a refuge for us.*

Ps. 104. 34. 62. 8. Tob. 4. 16. 7. 12.

The last words may serve for a short Ejaculation in *his* behalf at any time of the day.

Now the merciful God give him good success in all things! The God which dwelleth in Heaven, prosper his *journey, and the Angel of God keep him company!* Amen.

A Thanksgiving after a safe Return *home.*

IN an humble joyful sense of thy fatherly care and providence over me, ever since I went from this place (to which thou hast brought me back in peace and safety) I cast down my self at thy feet, O Lord God of heaven, praising thy Almighty goodness, with an heart full of love and devo-

devotion to Thee. It is of thy mercy alone that I am not conſumed, and becauſe thy compaſſions fail not. That I am not groaning under ſickneſs, or wounds and bruiſes in my body; nor ſighing for the loſs of my goods either at home or abroad, is to be aſcribed to that tender mercy which ſpreads it ſelf over all thy works; and hath been a covering to me night and day, in every place where I have been, from I know not how many dangers. I thank thee alſo for letting me ſee the faces of my relations and friends again, and that no evil hath come nigh their dwellings: but eſpecially for preſerving my ſoul in integrity and uprightneſs before thee; and for delivering me from the power of temptations, and from wounding my conſcience, by any wilful offence againſt thy Divine Majeſty.

It is too little to render to thee my Praiſes and Thankſgivings; I will pay thee my Vows wherein I ſtand engaged to thee; and here offer unto thee my ſelf, ſoul and body, to be made a more pure, perfect and acceptable ſacrifice unto thee through Chriſt Jeſus. Maintain, I beſeech thee, ſuch a lively and laſting remembrance of thy kindneſs in my heart, as may both provoke me to love and to good works, and alſo ſtrengthen my faith and hope in thee on all occaſions for the time to come.

I ought not to forget, now, that I mention thy late deliverances, all the reſt of thy mercies: which are ſo many and ſo various, that, alas! we take little notice of many of them. In the conſtant and undiſturbed courſe of them, we are apt to be leſs ſenſible how much we ſtand indebted to thee for them. Yea, they have been ſo long continued to us, and we are ſo far from the beginning of them, that we are too prone to forget the head and fountain from whence they ſpring.

O,

O, how sad is it, that we should love thee less, because thou lovest us so much! and that we should think the seldomer of thy bounty, because thou constantly remembrest us and dost us good! How much should we praise thee for out health and ease, if we were sick or in pain but a few days! And yet now we praise thee but a little, though we are well many years. How thankful should we be, if we were freed from the Devil, after he had affrighted and vexed us but one night! and yet now, alas! we scarce mind thy goodness, which perpetually preserves us from his assaults.

Endue me, O God of all grace, with a more serious spirit, often reflecting and meditating upon thee, and upon thy benefits, both to my soul and body, for this life and that which is to come. That I may not be taught the value and number of thy blessings, by being deprived of them; but in their constant use and enjoyment may ever duly ponder them: extolling and praising thy infinite goodness, with sensible love to thee, and delight in doing of thy Will.

For which end, I beseech thee to endue me with power from above, that I may not deceive my own soul with some passionate desires, transports of joy, or sudden resolutions: but deliberately, and with the full consent of my heart devoting my self to thy service, I may conscientiously study to improve all thy mercies to the honour and glory of thy Name, the credit of my Religion, the good and profit of my Neighbours, and my own solid peace and comfort at present, and eternal joy at the day of the Lord.

And bless all others, I beseech thee, that desire the same mercy, of which thou hast made me partaker. Receive them into thy protection; conduct them safely to the end of their journeys: Make them ever mindful of thy loving kindness; and careful to remem-

remember that every new benefit is a new bond to better obedience. Unto which, good Lord, incline us all more and more, for thy mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus; by whom and for whom thy glorious Name be bleſſed and praiſed for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by one going a Voyage on the Sea.

Which may be uſed, with a little alteration, by his Friends for him.

O Moſt mighty Lord, *the God of our ſalvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the Sea*: Under whoſe powerful protection we are alike ſecure in every place; and without whoſe providence over us, we can no where be in ſafety. I am ſenſible of the tender care thou haſt long taken of me, and that I have been preſerved by thee from innumerable dangers, both in my infancy and childhood, and ever ſince; for which I have not thanked thee as I ought. I moſt humbly beſeech thee graciouſly to pardon this and all other my offences, which might juſtly weaken my confidence in thee; did I not feel thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus, who died for us, to be ſo great, as to fill my heart not only with unfeigned ſorrow for them, but with holy reſoſolutions to be more grateful and dutiful in time to come. Pſal. 65. 5.

This emboldens me, with an humble faith in thy Almighty goodneſs, to commend my ſelf ſtill to the conduct, guidance and bleſſing of thy merciful Providence. O God, receive me,

though a ſinful creature, into thy favour and grace. Purge my heart from all affection to every thing that is evil; that I may not carry the ſenſe of any guilt unrepented of, along with me in my voyage: But have my heart ſetled in ſuch an unmoveable love to all piety, righteouſneſs and ſobriety of mind and life, that no ſtorm or tempeſt or other danger may diſmay me and make me afraid. They are all, I know, in thy hands; to which I commit my ſelf with an entire truſt in thee, that nothing ſhall hurt me while I follow that which is good.

If thou art pleaſed to bring me to my deſired haven, Lord, poſſeſs me then with theſe good thoughts and affections which I feel at preſent in my heart towards thee: That my chief joy may be in thee, and in the love I find in my heart to thee; and I may never forget thee by intemperate mirth and pleaſure in any other enjoyment. But if thou thinkeſt good otherwiſe to diſpoſe of me, thy will, O Lord, be done. I commend both my body and my ſpirit into thy hands; who art able to make the Sea give up her dead, by thine Almighty Word.

Help me always to hold faſt that hope of eternal life *as an anchor of my ſoul both ſure* Heb. 6. 19, 20. *and ſtedfaſt*; which may preſerve me in unſhaken comfort and joy at the hour of death it ſelf. And looking up to that quiet place whither *Jeſus our fore-runner is entred for us*, I may begin thoſe Praiſes and Thankſgivings which I hope ſhall have no end; but be continued for ever in the company of the bleſſed in the other world. Unto which I beſeech thee of thine infinite mercies to bring me through Chriſt Jeſus; who *is made an High Prieſt for ever*. Amen.

A Thanksgiving after it is finished, and the party returned home again.

O Blessed Lord; *Thou art great, and greatly to be praised*; for by *thy word the heavens were made: and all the host of them by the breath of thy mouth. Thou didst gather the waters of the Sea together, as an heap: and laidst them up in the store-houses of the deeps.* They are all at thy command, and *whatsoever thou pleasest, that dost thou in Heaven and in Earth, in the Seas and all deep places. I have seen thy works, O Lord, and thy wonders in the deep. For thou spakest the word, and the stormy wind arose, which lifted up the waves thereof.* And again, *when we cried unto thee, thou madest the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof were still.*

Psal. 48. 1. 33. 6, 7. 135. 6. 107. 24, &c.

Blessed be thy Almighty Goodness, which carried me safe through such great and dreadful dangers. Blessed be thy goodness, that the deep hath not swallowed me up, and that I am not gone down into silence. Blessed be thy goodness, that neither my body, nor my goods, became a prey to unreasonable men: but that thou broughtest me to the Haven where I would be, and hast now returned me home in safety.

O God, that I may never forget the vows which I was forward to make when I was in trouble! Preserve in me for ever an awful sense and apprehension of thy great power, who *bringest the wind out of thy treasuries*; *and rulest the raging of the Sea, and stillest the noise of its waves. Who would not fear thee, O Lord, who would not*

Psal. 135. 7. 89. 9. Jer. 5. 22. Psal. 120. 11.

tremble at thy preſence? who haſt placed the Sand for the bound of the Sea, by a perpetual decree that it cannot paſs it; and though the waves thereof toſs themſelves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not paſs over it.

O poſſeſs my heart with a greater reverence of thy divine Majeſty, that I may ever *ſerve thee with fear, and rejoyce before thee with trembling.* Eſpecially make me fearful of offending thee, who art ſo great and powerful; and haſt done ſuch great things for me; and canſt do greater; and wilt do them, as thou haſt promiſed, by Chriſt Jeſus; who hath *power to ſubdue all things to himſelf.*

Philip. 3. 20.
Heb. 2. 3.

Bleſſed be thy infinite grace, which hath wrought ſuch a marvellous redemption for us by him. *How ſhall I eſcape, if I neglect ſo great ſalvation?* How miſerable ſhall I be, if after all the dangers from which I have now been reſcued, I ſhould for my ingratitude and diſobedience be *caſt into the lake of fire and brimſtone?* O God, that all thy mercies and deliverances here may, by a thankful remembrance and careful improvement of them, only prepare me for that glorious deliverance at the day of the Lord Jeſus! and as by thy good providence thou haſt ſaved me from the violence of ſtorms and tempeſts, and other hazards: ſo by thy grace deliver me from the power and violence of all temptations; and enable me ſtedfaſtly to perſiſt in well-doing, and patient ſuffering unto the end.

Endue me with ſuch a right ſenſe of my Religion, as may make it to be my delight; that ſo I may be out of all danger of being prevailed withal, to forſake that which is ſo ſweet and pleaſant to my ſoul. O that it may be my guide in proſperity, and my comfort in adverſity; the rule of my life, and my great ſatisfaction in death! Sanctifie every condition

condition unto me; that ſickneſs or health, poverty or riches, honour or diſgrace, may prove real bleſſings to me, and make me profit in piety and vertue. And let a great ſenſe of thee, and of Religion intermix it ſelf with all my employments. Teach me ſo to behave my ſelf, that I may be acceptable in thy ſight, not only when I make ſuch addreſſes as theſe unto thee: But whether I eat or drink, or whatſoever I do elſe, I may abide in thy love, and be approved by thee, for a good and faithful ſervant.

All which, I moſt humbly beg of thee, and whatſoever thou ſeeſt good for me, in the name of the Lord Jeſus; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghoſt, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer in a Storm.

O God, who haſt bid us in the day of trouble to call on thee; to whom alone *belong the iſſues from death.* I flee to thee for protection and ſafety in this great and dreadful diſtreſs. The Sea roars, and the Deep is ready to ſwallow me up. *The floods, O Lord, are lifted up, the floods lift up their waves. But the Lord on high is mightier than the noiſe of many waters; yea, than the mighty waves of the Sea.*

To thy Almighty love I commit my ſelf, who canſt immediately rebuke the Winds and the Sea, and turn this ſtorm into a calm. I have juſtly deſerved, I know, to be caſt away, and rejected by thee, upon whom I now caſt my ſelf for ſafety. But I hope thou wilt accept of my unfeigned ſorrow for all my ſins, and my unfeigned purpoſe

to forſake them. Have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake; who *deſcended into the lower parts of the earth* for me, and is now *aſcended far above all heavens*, to ſuccour thoſe that call upon thee in his Name. For his ſake ſpare me, at leaſt from going down into utter darkneſs, and if it be thy will, from periſhing here in the deep waters. O, give me the comfort of thy mercy, that, though the Sea rages, my heart may be quiet and ſtill.

And as I deſire to be preſerved from this preſent danger, ſo I earneſtly deſire thou wilt preſerve in me hereafter a pious dread of thy Divine Majeſty; the leaſt expreſſion of whoſe diſpleaſure, I ſee in this tempeſt, is exceeding full of terror. Awaken my ſoul perpetually, by the thoughts of it, to live a more ſober, righteous and godly life. That being ſaved from death, I may never forget thy loving kindneſs; but ſtudy as long as ever I live, to ſhew my ſelf truly thankful to thee, by ſincere and careful obedience, through our Lord Jeſus. To whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, be eternal praiſes. *Amen.*

A Thanſgiving after a Storm.

GLory, honour, thankſgiving and praiſe, be unto thee, O God, my Saviour, and my mighty Deliverer. Thou art worthy of all my love, and all my ſervice, of more than I can be ever able to render to thee; who haſt made me, and Redeemed me, and now graciouſly preſerved me. What ſhall I return unto thee, for all the benefits thou haſt heaped on me? I can never thank thee,

thee, never love thee enough, for thoſe which I have formerly received; and yet *thou haſt now put a new ſong into my mouth, even praiſe unto my God*, Pſal. 40. 2.

For if the Lord had not been with me, I muſt needs acknowledge, if it had not been the Lord who protected me, when the Sea roſe up againſt me: Then it had ſwallowed me up quick, when it ſwelled and raged horribly againſt me. Then the waters had overwhelmed me, the ſtreams had gone over my ſoul. Then the proud waters had gone over my ſoul. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath not caſt me out of his ſight nor ſuffered all his billows and waves to paſs over me. I have eſcaped the ſtormy wind and tempeſt, the ſtorm is ceaſed, and I am eſcaped. I will ſacrifice to thee therefore the voice of thankſgiving. I will pay that which I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord. Our help is in the Lord, who made the heaven and earth.

Pſal. 124. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Jonah 2, 3, 4, 7. 9.

Let the remembrance of thy mercy never ſlip out of my mind. And make me as mindful of my own promiſes, as forward to every part of my duty, and chearful in the performance of it; that ſo I may be able to truſt in thee at all times. *When my ſoul is ready to faint within me, help me to remember thee, O Lord*: and always ſtudy to walk before thee, as thy, every way, Redeemed One. Who deſires that all thoſe who have been partakers in the ſame deliverance, may all expreſs the ſame thankfulneſs; and *pay thee the vows which their lips have uttered, when they were in trouble.*

O *Magnifie the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.*

Let us ſacrifice the ſacrifice of thankſgiving, and declare his works with rejoycing.

For his merciful kindneſs is great towards us: and his truth endureth for ever. Praiſe the Lord. Amen, Amen.

A Prayer in time of great Thunder *and* Lightning.

O Great God; who art *wiſe in heart, and mighty in ſtrength*; *who removeſt the mountains, and overturneſt them in thine anger*; *Who ſhakeſt the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble*; *Who doſt great things paſt finding out*; *yea, and wonders without number*, I proſtrate my ſelf in awful adorations of thee. For *the voice of the Lord is very powerful, the voice of the Lord is full of Majeſty. The voice of the Lord rends the air, and ſends out flames of fire.*

Job 9. 4, 5, 6, &c.

Pſal. 29. 4. 7.

Who would not fear thee, O *God of glory*? who would not ſtand in awe of thee? who canſt inſtantly, I ſee, *tear us in pieces, and none can deliver us.* It is of thy mere mercy, that the *arrows thou now ſendeſt out, do not ſcatter us*: and that thou doſt not *ſhoot out lightnings to diſcomfit us.* Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that we are not utterly conſumed by *the blaſt of the breath of thy noſtrils.* O that thy ſparing mercy may ſenſibly affect my heart, and move me hereafter to *ſerve thee acceptably with reverence and godly fear*: remembring that *our God is a conſuming fire.*

Pſal. 50. 22.

Pſal. 18. 14.

Pſal. 144. 6.

Heb. 12. 28.

Settle in my heart an holy dread of thee, that as I now tremble at thy voice, ſo I may always *tremble at thy word*: And not dare to offend thee, who wilt ſend thy Son, I know one day (in a far more terrible manner than this) *with thy mighty Angels, in flaming*

ing fire, taking vengeance on them that know not thee, and obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. O that my heart may be possessed now with such a constant fear of thee, and such an ardent love and devotion to thee; that at that dreadful day, when heaven and earth shall quake, I may be able, with a good hope in thee, joyfully to expect a comfortable sentence from thee. That when the wicked shall hear that voice (more terrible than any Thunder) *Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his Angels*: I may be in the number of those happy Souls, to whom our Lord will say; *Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.* 2 Thes. 1. 8.

Which I humbly beg for his sake, under whose feet thou hast put all things in subjection, both in heaven and earth; to him with thy self and the Holy Spirit, be given as is most due, all honour and glory, all service and humble obedience, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be used by a Woman with Child.

O God, the Author of our being, the fountain of life, and all other good; who hast begun an excellent work in me, which no eye but thine sees, and no hand but thy Almighty power can finish. I adore thy great and glorious Majesty in this and in all other thy works of wonder. *Thou dost great things without number*: but art more particularly to be acknowledged in the formation of mankind, who *are fearfully and wonderfully made*, after thy own image and likeness.

Be pleased, O Lord, in thy infinite goodness to perfect and complete that which thou hast begun.

Preſerve the ſmalleſt degree of life, which thou haſt inſpired. Beſtow upon it entireneſs of all its parts; and prepare a convenient habitation for an underſtanding ſpirit, capable of the beſt wiſdom, and inclinable to virtue and goodneſs. Prevent, good Lord, the miſcarriage of my hopes; and ripen them to a good iſſue. And the nearer they come to their full growth; ſtrengthen the more my humble truſt in thee, and ſubmiſſion to thee, and hearty deſires to encreaſe the number of thy faithful people together with my own Family.

That ought to be the chiefeſt deſire of my ſoul, to be formed my ſelf in all things, according to the mind and will of thee, my God; that ſo I may be an inſtrument of doing good to others. O thou who haſt wrought many holy purpoſes and reſolutions in my heart, preſerve and confirm them, that they may not prove abortive; but bring forth continually the fruit of good living. Perfect me in Knowledge, in Faith, in Love, and in Obedience. Enable me ſo diſcreetly and carefully to diſcharge the duties of all the Relations wherein I at preſent, or ſhall hereafter, ſtand; that I may be a comfort to them, and a credit to Religion. And howſoever thou diſpoſeſt of me or them, Lord, make me well contented; and in every condition to give thanks unto thee, and to rejoyce in thy holy Name, and in the hope of eternal life; through Chriſt Jeſus my moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer when the time of her Travel *draweth near.*

O GOD, the helper and deliverer of all thoſe that truſt in thee; by whoſe power I was formed in my Mothers Womb, by whoſe care I was brought from thence, and by whoſe merciful kindneſs I have been preſerved in many dangers ſince. I praiſe and magnifie thy great and glorious Name; and am encouraged by the remembrance of thy mercies, which have been ever of old, to implore thy compaſſionate help in the approaching time of my need, pain and danger.

Thou art preſent to all thy creatures, and heareſt the cries of the beaſts of the earth, which all wait upon thee. O be not far from me, when trouble is near: but hearken unto me, and ſave me, when I call upon thee! Shorten my pains, or lengthen my patience; which thou pleaſeſt. Bear up my ſpirit in ſubmiſſion to thy will, and in ſome humble hope that I *ſhall forget my anguiſh for joy that a man is born into the world. Forſake not the work of thy own hand:* but in due time perfect it, and bring forth that which thou haſt wrought in ſecret, into the light; that we may all ſee the wonders of thy wiſdom, and praiſe thy goodneſs and thy power. John 16. 21. Pſal. 138. 8.

My Parents truſted in thee; they truſted, and thou didſt deliver them. they cried unto thee, and were delivered: they cried unto thee, and were not confounded. Pſal. 22. 4, 5. In thee likewiſe do I humbly put my truſt and confidence: which nothing diſheartens but my own great unworthineſs; by reaſon of my forgetfulneſs of thy benefits, and unthankful returns for former

mer mercies beſtowed upon me. But thou haſt taken care that this ſhould not diſcourage me neither, by proclaiming a gracious pardon, by him that was born of a woman, and died for us, unto contrite and reforming ſinners.

Accept, I beſeech thee, of my ſincere reſolutions to preſerve hereafter a more affectionate remembrance of thy love to me, and to dedicate my ſelf and all I have to thy ſervice, *in faith,*

1 Tim. 2. 25. *and charity, and holineſs, with ſobriety.* Or if thou art pleaſed otherwiſe to diſpoſe of me, I reſign my ſelf heartily unto thee. Lord receive me to a better life, where all ſighing and ſorrow ſhall be done away, and eternal joy entirely poſſeſs our hearts. *Amen,* for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake. *Amen.*

A Prayer to the ſame purpoſe to be ſaid by her Relations.

O Moſt mighty Lord, who haſt already given us innumerable pledges of thy love, and many arguments to truſt in thee for ever, and to expect with quiet and patient minds the iſſue of thy wiſe and good providence. Thou haſt reſpect to all the works of thy hands; eſpecially to the ſons of men, and to thoſe above the reſt, who ſeek thy favour, and give thee the glory of all thy mercies, and are reſolved to devote themſelves and their children, and all they have, to do thee honour in the world. We moſt humbly commend thy ſervant, drawing near the time of her Travel, to thy care and bleſſing: beſeeching thee to give her a gracious deliverance, and to eaſe her of the burden, wherewith ſhe labours.

We

We our ſelves are monuments of that mercy, which we beg of thee. Thou broughteſt us into this world, and didſt unlooſe the bands wherewith we were ſwadled in our mothers womb. We have had long experience alſo of thy readineſs to ſuccour us, and to do us good ever ſince; many times beyond our deſires and hopes, and always beyond our deſervings. We dare not but commit our ſelves and every thing belonging unto us, moſt heartily into thy hands: remembring that thou haſt the ſame power and goodneſs ſtill, by which we came into the light of the living; and that thou ſtill exerciſeſt them, as thy wiſdom thinks moſt meet.

We cannot deſire to be better provided for, than as thy infinite underſtanding and counſel judges moſt convenient for us. Unto that we refer our ſelves: beſeeching thee, if it be thy good pleaſure, that her deliverance may be as ſpeedy as her cries unto thee, or her patience as great and long as her pains. Thou who ripeneſt the fruits of the earth, and then giveſt us to gather them to our comfort; blaſt not our humble hopes of the fruit of the womb: But after thou haſt brought it to maturity, deliver it into our hands, as a new pledge of thy goodneſs to us; for which we will ever thankfully acknowledge and praiſe thy Name.

Or if thou haſt otherwiſe determined; Lord, give us grace to ſubmit to thy holy will, and to reſt ſatisfied in thy wiſe appointments, and never to diſtruſt thy goodneſs and care over us. Yea, help us ſtill to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy Name; ſaying; *The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; bleſſed be the name of the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.* Amen.

A Prayer to be ſaid by them, when ſhe is actually in Travel.

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort; our only help in time of need. We flee to thee for ſuccour in behalf of this thy ſervant, who now expects thy mercy, in this her great diſtreſs. The ſorrows which thou threatnedſt to our firſt Parent, are come upon her; the pangs of travel have taken hold of her. May it pleaſe thee, O Lord, to give her eaſe, by being her ſpeedy Deliverer.

As thou haſt made her conceive, and haſt now brought to the birth; ſo give her ſtrength alſo to bring forth. Support her ſpirits in her labour. Bleſs the endeavours of thoſe who are to aſſiſt her. Preſerve that infant life which ſtruggles in her womb to be delivered. And let us ſee the work of thy hands, to all our joy and comfort.

O bleſſed Jeſus, who thy ſelf waſt born of a woman, make haſte to help her. Be with her in her agony. Enable her patiently to bear her pain; and humbly to depend on thy goodneſs, for ſafety and ſalvation. And if it ſeem good to thee, ſhorten her labour, and make her the joyful mother of a child; to ſucceed in our place to love and ſerve thee, the Saviour of men. *Amen.*

Theſe ſentences may be often repeated. *Lord hear our Prayer: And let our cry come unto thee.*

Ariſe, and help her, and deliver her, for thy mercies ſake, Pſal. 44. ult.

O *Saviour of the world, who by thy croſs and paſſion haſt redeemed us: ſave her and help her, we humbly beſeech thee,* O *Lord.*

A Thankſgiving to be uſed by thoſe preſent after her ſafe Deliverance.

WE thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for thy long continued goodneſs to us thy creatures, who are unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. *In thee we live, and move, and have our being.* And it is only of thy mercy, that we have not lived in perpetual pain and torment, ſpending our days in ſighs and lamentations: but have enjoyed much health and eaſe, and had innumerable occaſions to praiſe thee, and to rejoyce in thee; *who loadeſt us daily with thy benefits.* Bleſſed be thy Name, O Lord, *who forgiveſt all our iniquities, and healeſt all our diſeaſes. Who redeemeſt our life from deſtruction, and crowneſt us with loving kindneſs, and tender mercies.* More particularly we thank thee, that thou haſt heard the humble ſupplications of this thy ſervant; to whom thou haſt now granted a gracious deliverance, and turned her ſorrow and heavineſs into joy and gladneſs. We thank thee, that thou haſt ſent her ſeaſonable helpers, and bleſſed their endeavours for the preſervation of her, and of the fruit of her womb. And that thou likewiſe vouchſafeſt her all needful things, for her refreſhment in this weak condition wherein ſhe lies; waiting upon thee for the perfecting of thy mercies towards her.

Accept, we beſeech thee, of our hearty acknowledgments, of thy powerful and good providence over her, and over any perſon here preſent, in the like neceſſity; which we now thankfully call to mind, and deſire may never be forgotten. O that a lively remembrance of this, and all other mercies, may ſo mightily affect our hearts; that we may be moved thereby to fear thee all our days, and to love

thee,

thee, and to put our truſt in thee, and with quiet and reſigned minds to caſt all our burdens and cares on thee, in a conſtant and chearful obedience to all thy holy commands!

And ſince thou haſt begun to be ſo gracious to this thy hand-maid, grant unto her and her relations further favour; *and finiſh their life in health, with joy and mercy.* Renew her ſtrength daily: and as that increaſeth, ſo make her thankfulneſs and pious affections towards thee, and ſerious reſolutions to obey thee faithfully, grow up together therewith.

Tob. 8. 16.

Refreſh her ſpirit, while ſhe lieth on this bed of weakneſs, with many heavenly thoughts and delightful meditations of all thy mercies towards her and towards mankind: eſpecially with a ſenſe of thy wonderful love, in Chriſt Jeſus; who was pleaſed to be born of a woman, and to become like one of us; that we might be aſſured of thy care over us in every condition, and be made thy children, and at laſt be heirs of everlaſting life. And when ſhe hath recovered her former ſtrength, make her to feel this love ſtill more powerful in her heart; exciting her to ſerve thee carefully in all righteouſneſs, ſobriety, modeſty, devotion and readineſs to aſſiſt others, eſpecially the poor and needy, in the ſame diſtreſs wherein ſhe hath been her ſelf.

We commend likewiſe this little one, which thou haſt bleſſed her withal, unto thy tender care and fatherly love: beſeeching thee, that it may live to be dedicated unto thee, and to be inſtructed in the knowledge of thee, and to praiſe thee, as we now do, for bringing it into the world; and for making it partaker likewiſe of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus. Or if it ſhall ſeem good to thee, to let either of them fall into any further danger, enable her to endure it with patient ſubmiſſion to thee: truſting even in

in death it self, in thy good providence, and in thy precious promises, who never failest those that faithfully seek thee.

Hear us, O Father of mercies, and pardon our offences; pity our infirmities; make us more thankful for what we have received; and more fit for thy future mercies, either in this life, or in the next, through thy infinite love declared to us in Christ Jesus; in whose holy words we conclude our prayers, saying as he hath taught us.

Our Father, &c.

A Thanksgiving to be used by the person her self, when she is able.

UNto thee, O God, do I give thanks, unto thee do I give thanks: for that thou art near, thy wondrous works declare. Psal. 75. 1.
In my distress I called upon thee, and my cry came unto thee. I sought thee, O Lord, and thou heardest me, and deliverdst me from all my fears. In the day when I cried, thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul. Thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me. Blessed be God, who hath preserved the fruit of my womb, and made me the joyful mother of a child. *Thy vows are upon me, O God, I will render praise unto thee. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises unto my God, while I have my being. My meditation of him shall be sweet, I will be glad in the Lord.*

18. 6.
34. 4.
138. 3.
30. 3.
66. 20.
56. 12.
104. 33, 34.

Accept

Accept, O most merciful Father, of these thankful acknowledgments; *which go not forth out of feigned lips.* Psal. 17. 2. And be 57. 2. pleased graciously to preserve such a lasting and fresh remembrance of thy great mercies in my heart; that I may always be joyful in thee, and speak good of thy name, and trust in thee at all times, and still *cry unto thee, O God most high, who performest all things for me.* Make me studious likewise, and forward to bring forth all the fruits of righteousness, throughout the whole course of my life; which may witness the truth and sincerity of my thankfulness to thee.

O that I may never be less earnest and fervent in the return of obedience, than I have been in desires and prayers to receive thy blessing! Dispose me to have a kind and tender care of this infant which thou hast committed to my charge. Make me willing to undergo, to the utmost of my power, the pains that accompany its education. Let not the love of ease and pleasure breed in me an averseness to any duty, to which both Nature and Religion incline me: or give me grace, by sober thoughts, and a thankful remembrance of the late pain from which thou hast delivered me, to overcome it.

Especially endue me with the greatest love to its precious and immortal soul. And help me so to grow and encrease in Christian wisdom and goodness, that I may be able to instruct it when it is capable, in the fear of our Lord; and by meek and gentle admonitions, together with a good example in all things, to win it to the love of true godliness. Or if thou art pleased to take it from me, who deserve not the least of thy mercies; Lord, so moderate my affections, and bring them in subjection to thee, that I may not undutifully repine at thy providence: but in an humble adoration of thy unsearch-

able

able wisdom, and a stedfast confidence of thy good will towards me, resign it unto thee, from whom I received it.

And I also beseech thy Divine goodness, when thou shalt restore me to the publick assemblies of thy people again, to give me grace to receive that mercy with exceeding joy. Prepare my heart with an enlarged affection to offer unto thee not only the sacrifice of praise, giving thanks unto thy name; but all other oblations which ought to accompany such addresses to thy glorious Majesty. That they may be but an earnest of my future diligence and zeal in thy Divine Service, and of my readiness to do good, and communicate unto others:

whereby I may *lay up in store for my self a good foundation against the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life*, through Christ Jesus. *Amen.* 1 Tim. 6.19.

A Prayer for good Success in some extraordinary business.

ALmighty and most merciful Father, the supreme Governour of the whole world: who disposest and orderest all things in heaven and earth with admirable judgment; and canst not possibly erre in what thou doest; nor fail of what thou designest. I adore in the humblest reverence of my soul, thy most glorious Majesty; thy eternal Power, Holiness, Goodness and Truth, which are all beyond my comprehension. And more particularly I adore thy unspotted Justice, and all-seeing Wisdom, which penetrates into the deepest secrets, and spies out all the ways of the sons of men, and renders to every one of them according to their doings.

I know, O Lord, that the way of man is not in himſelf: it is not in man that walketh to direct his ſteps. The ſucceſs of all our counſels and actions depends on thy pleaſure; and when we have *deviſed the way* we intend to go, thou giveſt it what iſſue ſeems good in thine eyes. *There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheleſs thy counſel, O Lord, that ſhall ſtand.* I will therefore *bleſs thee, O Lord, my God, alway, and deſire of thee that my ways may be directed, and that all my paths and counſels may proſper: for thou thy ſelf giveſt all good things, and thou humbleſt whom thou wilt, and as thou wilt.*

Jer. 10. 23. Prov. 16. 9. 19. 21. Tob. 4. 19.

Accordingly I now moſt earneſtly recommend my ſelf, and all my concerns to thee; who haſt bid me *in all my ways acknowledge thee, and thou wilt direct my paths. I truſt* in thy wiſe and good providence *with all my heart, and lean not unto mine own underſtanding.* I hope in thy mercy that thou wilt ſo direct, aſſiſt and proſper all my thoughts, deſigns and endeavours, that they may attain their deſired end.

Prov. 3. 5, 6.

And above all things, I deſire that I may have grace to deſign and ſeek for nothing but what is juſt and honeſt, pious and charitable, praiſe-worthy and of good report. Bleſs me, good Lord, with that integrity of heart, in which thou ſo much delighteſt: and then bleſs me with wiſdom and good underſtanding in all my affairs, that *I may guide them with diſcretion.* For *it is thou that leadeſt into Wiſdom, and directeſt the wiſe. In thy hand are both we and our words: all wiſdom alſo and knowledge of Workmanſhip.* Leave me not therefore; O *Lord, Father and Governour of my whole life,* leave me not to my ſelf alone; but

Wiſ. 7. 15, 16. 9. 10. Eccluſ. 23. 1, 5.

send out thy wisdom from the throne of thy glory, that being present, she may labour with me. And turn away from me vain hopes. Endue me also with a patient, contented and untroubled spirit, that I may wait on thee as long as thou pleasest: and whatsoever the event shall be, enable me to rejoyce in thee as my portion, and to rest perfectly satisfied in thy love, and in the assured hope of good things in the other world.

I humbly recommend likewise to thy merciful guidance, all those with whom I have intrusted any of my concerns; that they may manage all their undertakings with skill and prudence, Justice and fidelity; and do for me, as they would that I or others should do for them. Make us all ever mindful, that *all our works are as the Sun before thee, and thy eyes are continually upon our ways*; that we may never dare to do any thing but what thou approvest, and of which we may give a comfortable account, at the great day of Judgment. Ecclus. 17.19. Ephes. 3. 20. Rom. 16. 25. 27.

Now unto him that is of power to do for me exceeding abundantly above all that I ask or think, to God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

A Prayer when one intends to live Unmarried.

O Lord, the lover of souls; for whom they were made, and in whom alone they can be happy. *There is none I have in heaven but thee, nor on earth that I desire besides thee.* Who art the perfection of wisdom, power and goodness; and the fountain of Psal. 73. 25.

all

all the good that is in us. Thou art able to raiſe us to what degree of wiſdom, ſtrength and goodneſs thou pleaſeſt: and haſt promiſed us thine aſſiſtance to make us like unto thee; and aſſured us we ſhall be immortally bleſſed, by a glorious participation of thee. Thou draweſt us ſo mightily, that we have no power to reſiſt thee; when our minds turn themſelves towards thee, and reflect upon thy moſt excellent Nature, which diſcovers it ſelf, in all thy bounty to us, and the reſt of thy creatures.

We cannot but love thee, when we think of thee, and when we love thee, we cannot but again think of thee, that we may have the pleaſure ſtill of loving thee more. O fix my mind, I beſeech thee, in a more ſtedfaſt contemplation of thee, and of all thy gracious communications to me, that I may ſpend my days delightfully in a perpetual meditation of thy mercies, which I have received in ſuch abundance from thee.

There is nothing I know more natural and more eaſie, than to think of the kindneſſes of thoſe that love us; eſpecially theirs to whom we bear a mutual love. O how great, how free and undeſerved is thy love to us! What infinite reaſon is there that we ſhould love thee, with all our heart, and with all our ſoul, and with all our ſtrength? Inſpire me, O God, with ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy goodneſs in my creation, and ever ſince, both to my ſoul and to my body, that I may ever preſerve a ſweet and grateful remembrance of it; and may feel it provoking me daily to commemorate thy loving kindneſs, with the moſt ardent love of thee, my moſt bountiful benefactor. O that I could love thee, in every thing that I ſee and enjoy! being led by it to the thoughts of thy admirable wiſdom, which aſtoniſhes us in the leaſt of thy creatures; and of thy matchleſs goodneſs which hath provided ſuch a variety of pleaſures for all our ſenſes.

Poſſi

Poſſeſs me with a great and ſtrong admiration of the excellency of wiſdom; that I may *be a lover of her beauty, and ſeek her out from my youth; deſiring to marry her to my ſelf. For thou the Lord of all things, thy ſelf, loveſt her: And therefore I purpoſe to take her to live with me; knowing that ſhe will be a counſeller of good things, and a comfort in cares and grief.* Wiſd. 8. 2, 3, 9. But eſpecially over-power my heart with a ſtrong and laſting ſenſe of thy exceeding abundant kindneſs in Chriſt Jeſus; *in whom thou haſt choſen me, that I ſhould be holy, and without blame before thee in love.* Ephes. 1. 4, 8. Let me never think of that, but with ſuch great tranſports of love, and joy, and thankfulneſs unto thee, as may make me then forget all other things. And make me to underſtand more and more how thy love in him *hath abounded towards us in all wiſdom and prudence.* That ſo I may be the more moved to admire it, and delight to meditate upon it, and be ſtill ſearching into thoſe treaſures of thy Wiſdom, and unſearchable riches of thy Grace; till I come *to be filled with all the fulneſs of thee,* my God. Eph. 3. 19.

Tranſlate all my affections from theſe lower objects, to him that is *fairer than the children of men*; who loved me ſo much as to die for me; who is riſen again, and ſits at thy right hand in incomparable Majeſty and Glory. Raiſe up my thoughts as high as that heavenly place where he is, and where I hope one day to be; *equal to the Angels, who neither marry, nor are given in marriage.* Pſal. 45. 2. Luke 20. 16. Help me to begin that happy ſtate in ſeparating my ſelf frequently from all this world, and joyning with that bleſſed company above, in praiſing thee, and giving thanks unto

unto thee, whose mercies are great, and endure for ever.

And when I am about any other employment; help me chearfully to attend it; and with a willing mind to perform the duties belonging to it. Possess me with such an hatred of idleness and sloth, that I may always be busied about some good or innocent thing. Especially dispose me to exercise my self in works of mercy and charity; and to take all opportunities of doing good, to the bodies or souls of my Neighbours.

Endue me with prudence and discretion in the choice of my company and friends: and give me wisdom to improve their society to the best purposes. Make my mind more heavenly: and when any thoughts contrary to my inclinations and resolutions arise in me, turn them immediately to thy self, and my blessed Saviour. Open my eyes to behold the things that are not seen: And put out the splendor of all those things that dazle our eyes here, by the appearance of a brighter and more glorious good. Which may raise my designs higher than this world; and make all my passions and affections more equal and moderate; my discourse more profitable; my behaviour more humble, modest, and such as becometh Saints; and all my actions more conformable to thy will, and more exemplary to those whom I converse withal. *The very God of peace sanctifie me wholly; and preserve my whole spirit, and soul, and body blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 1 Thes. 5. 23.

O that my love to any thing here may not turn into wantonness and folly; nor my joy and chearfulness, into lightness and vanity; nor my seriousness or sorrow into melancholy and discontent; nor my just anger, into hatred and contention; nor industry in my business, into carefulness, distrust and earthliness

of mind; nor my discretion and prudence into craft, dissembling and deceit!

Dispose my heart, that I may so mind heavenly things, as to be very humble and lowly in my own eyes; and be so humble and sensible of my own unworthiness and weakness, as to make my addresses to thee continually, with the greater earnestness, for thy merciful help and supply. Teach me so to pray and call upon thee, as to labour and strive my self; and so to labour and run, that I may obtain. Let faith in thy good providence and precious promises be my comfort; and hope of thy glory make me rejoyce, and a great love to thee make me unwearied, and fill me with the consolations of the holy Ghost. O that my Religion may become my Nature; so that it may not be my burden or trouble: and help me so to look upon it as my duty, as withal to account it my honour, priviledge and happiness.

O that I may never desire any thing but to be so pure as thou wouldst have me; and to enjoy those rewards of holiness, which thou canst and wilt bestow upon me. This is the sum of my desires; that whatsoever I do may please thee, and whatsoever thou dost may be pleasing to me. Lord, hear me, and answer me graciously. And if I shall see any cause hereafter to change my condition, preserve in me an unchangeable love to thee above all things. That still I may please thee, and be acceptable in thy sight; delighting my self in wisdom, and *reposing my self with her*; *for her conversation hath no bitterness, and to live with her hath no sorrow, but mirth and joy.* Wisd. 8. 16. In which happiness, the Lord vouchsafe to keep me, whatever my condition be, for Jesus his sake. To whom with thee, O Father, and thy blessed Spirit, be everlasting praises. *Amen.*

A ſhorter to be added at any time to other Devotions.

O Bleſſed Jeſus; who cameſt down from heaven in the moſt familiar manner to us; and keptſt thy ſelf unſpotted from the world, while thou hadſt the moſt free converſation in it. I commend my ſelf to thy gracious protection, guidance and bleſſing: beſeeching thee to preſerve me *holy both in body and ſpirit*, while I live among men, and am not retired from them.

1 Cor. 7. 32. 34, 35. I deſire chiefly to *care for thoſe things that belong to thee our Lord, how I may pleaſe thee, and attend upon thee without diſtraction*: Favour therefore, I humbly entreat thee, theſe pious inclinations. I know how weak our nature is; and therefore the more earneſtly deſire thee to keep my heart ſtedfaſt in this purpoſe, if thou ſeeſt it beſt for me. Help me to employ my thoughts chearfully and conſtantly in heavenly things. Fill me with great devotion to thee. That when I am employed in other affairs, and am in other company, they may not draw my heart too ſtrongly to them: But I may ſtill remain fixed in what I have decreed; to be freed from all other cares, that I may more entirely ſerve thee.

Give thy holy Angels a ſpecial charge of me. Let thy bleſſed ſpirit powerfully aſſiſt me. Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity. Incline me alway to

1 Tim. 2. 9. *adorn my ſelf in modeſt apparel with ſhamefac'dneſs and ſobriety*: ſtudying rather to approve my ſelf to thee in good works, than to appear beautiful before men.

Be

Be thou my Love, my Satisfaction, my Joy, my hearts delight. Never abſent thy ſelf from me, nor leave me to follow any of my own paſſions: but conduct me pure and undefiled to the company of thoſe bleſſed Virgins and holy ones, who reign with thee for ever. *Amen, Lord Jeſus.*

I Pray God my whole ſpirit, and ſoul and body be preſerved blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt. 1 Theſ. 5. 23.

A Prayer when there are any thoughts of changing that condition, and deliberations about Marriage.

O Lord, my moſt gracious and merciful Father; of whoſe tender care and good providence I have had ſo long and abundant experience, that I ſhould be extremely ungrateful if I ſhould not acknowledge thee, and love thee, and truſt in thee, and upon all occaſions call upon thee, and ſeek thy favour for ever. There hath no day paſſed ſince I came into the world, but it hath brought along with it many tokens of thy love, which thou art ſtill renewing in every moment of my life. By thee I have been carried through all the dangers of infancy and child-hood, unto this age of underſtanding and reaſon. And thou haſt bleſſed me many ways ſince that time; eſpecially with ſome remembrance and ſenſe of thy ſelf, from whom I came, and on whom I depend; which I account the greateſt benefit of all. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that I am not a perfect ſtranger to thee: But that thou haſt made me to know ſomething of thee, and of thy

infinite goodneſs: who alone art able to make me happy, both here and eternally.

I hope in thee, O my God, that thou wilt never forſake me, but be my guide even unto death. Pardon, I beſeech thee, all the ſins and negligences, of which I have been at any time guilty: and let them not hinder the continuance of thy mercy and favour towards me, on which all the comfort of my life depends. Leave me not to my ſelf, and the weakneſs of my own counſels; eſpecially now, in the greateſt turn and change of my life: but vouchſafe to direct my thoughts, and all the motions of my heart aright, to that which will be moſt profitable for me, and conduce every way to my future comfort and ſatisfaction.

Lead me in the way wherein I ſhall go; and guide me for thy name's ſake. Endue me with ſuch a ſerious, conſiderate and diſcerning ſpirit, that I may not follow the enticements of any fading and periſhing good: but cleave to that which is unchangeable, and never dies. *Favour*, thou haſt taught me, *is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but one that feareth the Lord ſhall be praiſed.* O poſſeſs my heart with an holy fear of thee; that nothing may appear ſo amiable in mine eyes, as true Religion, Piety and Vertue! Make me in love with the beauties of Wiſdom, (*for thou loveſt none, but him that dwelleth with wiſdom, to be allied unto which is immortality; and great pleaſure I know, it is, to have her friendſhip*) and with the beauties of ſobriety, meekneſs, mercifulneſs, humility, and all thoſe things which are the image of thy goodneſs. That being inclined by theſe in my choice, I may find a fit perſon to be the guide of my youth [*or an help meet for me*] the delight of mine eyes; in whoſe ſociety I may enjoy a conſtant relief,

Prov. 31. 30.

Wiſd. 7. 28. 8. 17, 18.

eaſe

ease and pleasure, and be set forward thereby in the way to heaven.

Assist me, I beseech thee, in all my deliberations about this change; that I may soberly weigh every thing which is offered to my thoughts. And after all the dangers which by thy goodness, I have escaped, I may not be so unhappy now, as to fall into the saddest of all; by the strength of fancy, by rashness and unadvisedness of mind, or the violence and unrulines of any passion: but may dispose of my affections to a person worthy of them. Help me, blessed Lord, to make so wise a choice, that I may never repent of it afterward.

Direct and govern likewise the minds and hearts of all those [*Parents or Friends*] that transact any thing on my behalf. That they may have a respect chiefly to those things which endure for ever: and settle me there, where I may most glorifie thee, and do most good, and encrease in wisdom and virtue, and live in peace, chearfulness and contentment to the end of my days. Which mercies, and all others that thou seest requisite for me, I most humbly beg of thee, for Jesus Christ his sake, the Lord of peace; to whom, with thy self, and good Spirit, I desire to give, as is most due, eternal praises. *Amen.*

A Prayer when a person is about to enter into the state of **Marriage**; [*and may serve for any other new condition of life.*]

O Lord, the Guide and Director, the helper and comforter of all those that seek thee, and

depend upon thee with their whole heart. In a serious sense that nothing can make me happy without thy love, favour and blessing, I humbly cast down my self before thy Divine Majesty; imploring thy gracious presence with me, to instruct, govern and assist me in that condition, into which, under the conduct and protection of thy good providence, I am about to enter.

Great and many have been thy mercies towards me hitherto, ever since I was taken by thee out of my mothers womb. Thou hast nourished and clothed me: Thou hast brought me up to some knowledge of thee and of the duty I owe thee: thou hast shown me the path of life, and prevented me early with thy Grace, to dispose my heart to walk in it. And, though I have not made, I most sorrowfully confess, such returns unto thee as I ought to have done, yet it is some comfort to me, to feel my heart inclined and resolved to be more thankful and dutiful hereafter; and to pass the remaining part of my sojourning here in thy fear and love, and stedfast obedience.

Pardon me therefore, O most merciful Father, according to thy promises made in Christ Jesus, to penitent sinners. And vouchsafe me the grace of thy holy Spirit, to lead me to a clear and full understanding of all the duties that belong to the state and relations in which I have now chosen to serve thee. Endue me with a sincere and harty affection to them, and enable me carefully to perform them with a willing mind, and a chearful unwearied spirit, as long as thou thinkest fit to continue me in that condition of life. Bless me with a wise and observant heart, to discern and mark the nature and dispositions of those to whom I shall be joyned, in any bonds of love or duty: That I may delight to please them to the utmost of my power; and

and ſtudy their content and ſatisfaction; and bear with their infirmities; and chuſe the fitteſt opportunities to do them good, and amend what is amiſs in them.

Free us all, who ſhall ſtand related to each other, from all peeviſhneſs and unreaſonable paſſions: let no miſtake or cauſleſs jealouſie ſpoil the entirenels of our affection: endue us with great purity of heart, and a chaſte converſation: And beſtow upon us ſuch meek, ſweet, and compliant diſpoſitions, that this may not prove a ſtate of temptation and ſorrow, but of Godlineſs and holineſs, to our mutual joy and happineſs.

Make us ever mindful of the Covenant wherein we ſtand engaged to each other; eſpecially of that ſacred Vow wherein we ſtand bound to thee, by our being baptized into the Name of Jeſus Chriſt; that we may faithfully keep and perform it. Tye us ſo faſt together in unity of ſpirit, that we may have the ſame common cares; and bear one anothers burdens; and endeavour to encreaſe each others joys, and lighten each others ſorrows; and in all the changes and alterations of our condition we may religiouſly preſerve an immutable love unto and delight in each other to the end of our days.

Eſpecially help us to ſtir up one another to the love of thee, and our bleſſed Saviour; and to do all good offices to our Neighbours: that after we have enjoyed the comfort of a ſweet ſociety, and been a bleſſing to all that are near unto us; we may finally part in peace, and reſt in a good hope to dwell together for ever, in happy friendſhip with thee, and with our Lord and all the holy ones, *Amen. Amen.*

A Prayer of Parents for their Children *when they are grown up to some understanding.*

WE humbly worship thy glorious Majesty, O Lord most high; we acknowledge thy infinite goodness, that thou art pleased to give us leave to call thee Father, who art the possessor of heaven and of earth We thank thee for thy most tender care over us ever since we were born. More especially for the knowledge thou hast given us of thy great love in Jesus Christ: And that thou hast so timely prevented us with thy grace, and inclined our hearts to thy fear, and love, and service.

Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, O most merciful Father, to take our Children also (which we have already dedicated unto thee, and commended to thy care) into the protection and guidance, of the same gracious providence which hath been so watchful over us. Thou knowest the great weakness of our nature, how fooliſh and inconsiderate we are (especially in our younger years) how violent in our passions; how apt to listen to temptations, and easie to be seduced by them; how ready to flatter and abuse our selves with vain hopes; and how unwilling to believe what is contrary to our desires. And therefore we the more earnestly implore thy blessing upon our endeavours, to season their minds betime with a Religious sense of thee their Creator, and of their duty which they owe thee, and of that good in which their true happiness lies.

And we beseech thee likewise to excite our hearts to the greater diligence and thoughtfulness and care,

care, to imitate thy fatherly love towards our ſelves; by watching over them to do them good, and to train them up in thy fear. Endue us with wiſdom and prudence to give them wholeſom and ſeaſonable inſtructions: and diſpoſe their hearts to receive and remember them. Help us to govern exactly all our affections and paſſions; that we may neither embolden them to any thing that is evil by too much indulgence, nor diſcourage them in their duty by too much ſeverity: But be examples of godlineſs and virtue to them, by a ſober, grave, gentle, humble and devout behaviour and converſation.

Work in them a great reverence to all their Governours, Teachers and ſpiritual Paſtors; and bleſs their godly admonitions to them, that they may follow and obey them. Direct us alſo in the choice of fit perſons to aſſiſt us in their Education; and in the choice of fit employments for them; whereby they may prove uſeful and profitable members of Church and State.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that they have eſcaped the dangers of infancy and childhood. Good Lord, preſerve them from all the evil and miſchief to which the raſhneſs and indiſcretion of youth may betray them. And fortifie their minds againſt the power of all allurements to ſin; that we may live to ſee them thy dutiful and obedient children, and may leave the world in hope that they will continue ſo, unto their lives end.

Or if thou takeſt us away before they come to their full age, we commend them with the more ardent affection to thy never failing mercy and compaſſion. O thou who art *the Father of the fatherleſs*, be their God, and let them *find mercy with thee*, according to thy word. Diſpoſe of them ſo, that by loving and careful Governours, holy examples, innocent

Pſal. 68. 5. Hoſ. 14. 3.

and good company, pious and discreet counsels, with the help of thy divine grace they may ever be secured in their duty, and follow after us to eternal life; through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

A short Prayer for the use of a little **Child.**

O Lord, my most loving Saviour and merciful Redeemer; who commandedst that the little children should come unto thee, and didst take them up in thine arms, lay thy hands upon them, and bless them: Look graciously upon me, I humbly beseech thee, and bless me; who am one of thy children, dedicated to thy service. Pity the weakness of my tender age, and prevent me betimes with thy grace. Make me seriously to remember my Creator in the days of my youth. Endue me with the fear of my God: and make me always mindful of the Vow and Promise that was made in my name, when I was baptized; *to forsake the Devil and all his works, to believe in God and to serve him.*

Make me dutiful (as thou O Lord Jesus wast) unto my Parents [*loving to my Brethren and Sisters*] obedient to my Instructors: thankful for the good counsel of my Friends: humble and reverent to my betters: and meek and gentle to all men. That as I grow in years, so I may grow in wisdom and favour with thee, and with all those who are good.

Preserve me from all dangers; let thy good Angels be my keepers and defenders; and guide me by thy holy Spirit; that the longer I live the better I may

may be: to the comfort of my Parents, the honour and glory of my God, and my own happiness, here and for ever. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A shorter.

HEavenly Father, who despisest nothing that thou hast made, but takest care of the beasts of the Earth, and of the fowls of the Air: bless me thy child, whom thou hast made in thy image, and adopted for thy own by thy grace in Christ. Preserve me this day from all evil, both in soul and body. Give me what thou seest good for me. Especially an heart to know thee early, to be thankful to thee, to love thee, and to do thy will, as well as I am able. Bless my Father and my Mother, and all my friends: and make me a follower of those who are good; for the sake of my Saviour Christ Jesus the Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer for the use of a Child that hath lost its Parents.

O Lord, who never failest those that seek thee: but *givest to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.* Psal. 147. 9. I cast my self upon thy infinite goodness, with whom the fatherless have been wont to

to find mercy. Be thou, O *Lord, Father and God of my life*, a most merciful and gracious Father unto me: and provide what thou ſeeſt, in thy wiſdom, to be neceſſary for me.

Ecclus. 23. 4.

Eſpecially, beſtow upon me ſome faithful friend that will admoniſh me, and take care of my ſoul, to bring me up religiouſly in the fear of thee my God. Preſerve me from all diſtruſt of thy good providence. Give me favour in the eyes of others, by an humble, ſubmiſſive and good behaviour towards them. Make me diligent and induſtrious in ſome honeſt calling. And bleſs my labours and endeavours, that I may not be a burden unto others. But whatſoever my portion be in this world, give me grace to live ſo piouſly, juſtly and ſoberly, that I may not miſs of that *incorruptible inheritance, which fadeth not away, reſerved in the heavens for us*; through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

1 Pet. 1. 4.

A Prayer to be uſed by a **Widow.**

O GOD, by whoſe wiſe providence, which I humbly adore and reverence, I am left without my deareſt companion and guide in this our pilgrimage; and thereby deprived of the ſweeteſt comfort of life: behold the deſolate and ſorrowful eſtate of thy poor hand-maid, who ſupplicates thy tender mercy and compaſſion towards her. Comfort me, good Lord, with a delightful ſenſe of thy Divine preſence with me; and draw my heart the nearer to thee, in holy love and devout affection, and a lively hope that thou wilt never leave me nor forſake me.

I ought to thank thee at all times, for the many tokens of thy love towards me; and particularly for lending me this bleſſing ſo long, the value of which I now feel. by the want I am in of its ſupport. Pardon me, I beſeech thee, that I have not been ſo thankful for it, and the reſt of thy mercies, as I ought: nor ſo carefully improved them, as I might have done. *O take not away thy loving kindneſs from me in diſpleaſure.* But vouchſafe ſtill the continuance of thy favour towards me; eſpecially the ſupport of thy Divine Grace by the power of the Holy Ghoſt, to enable me to bear this affliction with an humble, meek and patient ſpirit.

Moderate all my paſſions. Free me from all diſcontented and diſtruſtful thoughts. Help me to caſt all my care on thee, *who relieveſt the fatherleſs and widow, and careſt even for the ſtrangers.* Pſal. 146. 9. Fix my mind upon thy love in the Lord Jeſus; in whom thou wouldſt have us to *rejoyce always.* Lift up my thoughts to thoſe heavenly enjoyments in that bleſſed place where he is; [*to which I hope my husband is departed.*] And help me to follow after him with all diligence in a pure, grave and godly converſation; and by a careful education of my Children, to endeavour that they may be alſo with us in that glory.

Let thy bleſſing ever reſt upon them. And now that they are left to me alone, give me ſo much the more wiſdom to inſtruct and govern them aright; and ſo much the more love to them, and tender affection to their good and welfare. Make them to be a comfort for me in my Widow-hood by their encreaſe in godlineſs; that we may chearfully ſerve thee together, in Prayers, and Thankſgivings, and reading of thy holy Word, and Communion with our bleſſed Saviour, and all other actions of a Chriſtian life. Prepare us for whatſoever condition

condition it is, into which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to bring us; that neither fulneſs nor poverty, honour nor reproaches, health nor ſickneſs, may ever ſeparate us from thy love in Chriſt Jeſus, but we may perſevere in patient obedience to thee, till we receive that crown of life which he hath promiſed to them that love thee. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of a poor Servant.

O Lord moſt high; who art the *Maker of the rich and of the poor*; with whom there Prov. 22. 2. is no reſpect of perſons: Look graciouſly upon me, I humbly beſeech thee, who here caſt down my ſelf before thee; acknowledging thy Sovereign power over all, and thy wiſe providence which hath diſpoſed all things into ſeveral ranks and orders, for their mutual help and benefit. I humbly ſubmit to the ſtate and condition wherein thou haſt been pleaſed to place me, below many others. I thank thee that I live; and that I live in health; and have ſtrength of body; (great and invaluable bleſſings!) and that I have ſo much liberty as to make my requeſts unto thee, and acknowledge thy mercies; and that I have any hope thou wilt never ceaſe to do me good, till thou haſt crowned all thy mercies in eternal life.

Good Lord, pardon me, if I have at any time murmur'd and repin'd at my condition, or envied the higher eſtate of other perſons. Pardon all my other offences, whatſoever they have been: and vouchſafe but to deliver me from the bondage of ſin, and to make me a Servant of Righteouſneſs; and I ſhall not only be contented, but perpetually rejoyce in thy Salvation. En-

Endue me with a right understanding of my duty in this relation wherein I stand. That according to thy command, I may account those whom I serve *worthy of all honour*; 1 Tim. 6. 1. being careful *to please them in all* Tit. 2. 9, 10. *things, never contradicting, nor pur-* Eph. 6. 5, 7. *loyning: but shewing all good fidelity; and with good will and singleness of heart doing service, as to the Lord and not to men.* Help me to demean my self so humbly, and *whatsoever I do, to do it so heartily*; that I may Colos. 3. 23, 25. obtain favour in their eyes. Or if they be froward and hard to please, O God, preserve me from all unseemly passions, and dis-respectful behaviour towards them. And make me so much the more dilligent in their business: remembring that *I serve the* Colos. 3. 23, 25. *Lord Christ*, from whom I expect to *receive the reward of the inheritance.*

If thou art pleased any other way to afflict me, with sickness or pains in my body, which may hinder my labour and cast me into poverty, Lord, still strengthen my faith and confidence in thee. And help me to bear it with a patient mind; looking unto Jesus, who took upon him the form of a Servant, and became poor, and suffered much for our sake; but now is therefore highly exalted to succour and comfort all those that follow after him contentedly in well doing. In his Name and Words I recommend my self unto thy mercy, saying,

Our Father, &c.

A Country-man's *Prayer for fruitful Seasons.*

O God the Creator and Preserver of all things, who *causest the grass to grow for the cattel, and herb for the service of man: who bringest forth food out of the earth, and blessest the springing thereof.* Be pleased graciously to look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, upon us thy people, and upon the land wherein we dwell. That both it may become fruitful, and yield its increase; and we also may grow in all wisdom and goodness, and bring forth plenteously the fruit of good works; to the honour and praise of thy Name, and to our perpetual comfort, both in this world, and in the world to come, through Christ Jesus our Saviour. *Amen.*

Ps. 104. 14. 70. 10. Deut. 26. 15.

A Prayer when the Weather is Unseasonable.

O God, who for our unthankfulness and abuse of thy blessings, art justly displeased at us; and dost now punish us [*with the want of the showres of heaven**] whereby we are in danger to lose the labour of our hands: Be pleased to accept of our unfeigned repentance, and mercifully to forgive the sins of thy people.

* Or with *immoderate showers.*

Visit

Viſit the earth again, and water it; make it ſoft with ſhowers, and let the clouds drop fatneſs on it [or, * *let not the floods of water overflow us, nor the ſeed be rotten under the clod:* but] As the fields now languiſh, *and joy is withered away from the ſons of men:* So let thy goodneſs *renew the face of the earth*, and make the paſtures and the fields *to ſhout for joy, and ſing.*

* *In a time of immoderate rain.*

Joel 2. 17.
Joel 1. 11.
Pſal. 104. 30.

Lord, hear the cry of the poor and needy. Let it ſuffice that we *eat our bread in the ſweat of our brows*: but do not puniſh us with ſcarcity of bread, which is the ſtaff and ſupport of our life. Have pity upon our perpetual labour and toil, and let us reap the fruit of it: for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, who *was made a curſe for us*; that we might inherit a bleſſing. To him, with thee, O Father of mercies, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all honour, glory and praiſe, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

Gen. 3. 19.

Gal. 3. 13.

A thankſgiving for a good Harveſt.

WE praiſe thee, O God, who haſt *opened to us thy good Treaſure: and given us rain from heaven, and fruitful ſeaſons, filling our hearts with food and gladneſs.* Bleſſed be God for the plenty wherewith he hath loadned the earth; and for the fair weather he hath ſent us, that we might gather it into our barns.

Deut. 28. 12.
Acts 14. 17.

He maketh graſs to grow upon the mountains; He giveth to the beaſt his food;

Pſ. 147. 8, 9, 14.

Iſa. 55. 10. *food; and he filleth us with the fineſt of the wheat. He watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give ſeed to the ſower, and bread to the Eater.*

To him therefore be the praiſe, for theſe and all other his benefits. Let all the world rejoyce and be glad in him; who *prepares a table for us, and ſatisfies our mouths with good things, and makes our cup to run over.* O that our hearts may even overflow with love and thankfulneſs to him. O that we may never forget nor abuſe his goodneſs, but by a ſober, charitable and pious uſe of theſe his bleſſings, we may be made fit for the continual increaſe of them; till they all conclude in eternal life. Which I moſt humbly crave for the ſake of Chriſt Jeſus, our bleſſed Lord and Saviour; to whom with the Father, and the Holy Ghoſt (from whoſe bounteous love we receive all good things) be all honour, and praiſe, and hearty obedience both now and evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of a Judge, *or other Magiſtrate.*

O God, the Supreme Lord and Governour of the world; *who haſt made all* Wiſd. 9. 1, 2, 3, &c. *things with thy word; and ordained man through thy wiſdom, that he ſhould have dominion over thy creatures, and order the world according to equity and righteouſneſs, and execute judgment with an upright heart: Thou haſt choſen me to be a Miniſter of thy Kingdom, and a Judge of thy ſons and thy Daughters.* But who is fit of himſelf alone, to diſcharge ſo great a truſt? Though

Though a man be never ſo perfect, yet if thy wiſdom be not with him, he ſhall be nothing regarded.

I humbly therefore addreſs my ſelf to thee, the Father of lights, the fountain of every good gift, *by whom Princes rule, and Nobles, and all judges of the earth:* that thou wilt beſtow upon me a wiſe and underſtanding ſpirit, to enable me always to diſcern exactly between good and evil, and to pronounce a righteous ſentence in the moſt perplexed caſes. Prov. 8. 16.

More eſpecially, I beſeech thee, to endue me with ſuch an honeſt and upright mind, that nothing in the world may ever tempt me from my integrity. O that mine eyes may never be blinded by gifts; nor mine heart turn aſide to follow after rewards. Let no love towards Friends, or hatred towards Enemies: no fear of thoſe who are mighty, or deſire of popular applauſe in the leaſt corrupt my judgment to decree unrighteouſly. But remembring thine all ſeeing eye, who *ſtandeſt in the congregation of the mighty, and judgeſt among the Gods*, I may always proceed uprightly and regard the perſon of no man in judgment.

Preſerve in me, O God, this pious Reſolution, by preſerving in me a conſtant ſenſe, that thou art higher than the higheſt; and wilt *judge all men, without any reſpect of perſons, according to their works.* O that I may ever have the heart to diſpenſe juſtice unto others with ſuch impartiality, as I expect to find my ſelf, when I appear before thy dreadful Tribunal.

Fill me with zeal and courage to puniſh vice and wickedneſs, though never ſo bold and befriended: and to defend and maintain thy true Religion and godlineſs, though never ſo much diſcountenanced and deſerted. That being true and faithful to the truſt thou haſt repoſed in me, I may receive

receive a favourable sentence from thy Majesty, when thou shalt come to judge the world in righteousness, by that Great Lord whom thou hast ordained, Christ Jesus the righteous. To whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghost, One Eternal only Wise God, *be Glory and Majesty, Dominion and Power, both now and for ever.* Amen.

A Prayer of a poor Prisoner *for Debt.*

O God, who art present to us in all places, and hast regard to the sighs and groans of the miserable, who humbly implore thy pity and compassion towards them: Vouchsafe to look graciously upon thy afflicted servant in this place; which is most desolate and comfortless, unless the light of thy countenance shine upon me. I confess that I have too much abused the liberty which I formerly enjoyed; and did not so carefully improve, as I ought to have done, those happy opportunities, which therewith were put into my hands. Many ways, I am sensible I have offended thy Divine Majesty *; for which I am heartily sorry; and acknowledge my self infinitely indebted to thy goodness, that I am not plunged into the depth of misery, to bewail my sins in the bottomless pit.

* *Here acknowledge the particulars.*

I thank thee, O Lord, with all my soul that I am not shut up in the place of outer darkness; and that I have any hope to obtain the benefit of the redemption, which is in Christ Jesus. In whose Name I beseech thee to pardon me; and likewise to sanctifie these straits wherein I lye, to the freeing my

my soul from the bond of all iniquity, and the restoring me to the glorious liberty of thy children. Help me seriously to follow the direction of thy Providence in this restraint; and now that I am so much alone by my self, to descend into my own heart, to search and try my ways, and unfeignedly to turn to thee, my God.

Enlarge my spirit more than ever, now that my body is confined, in fervent Prayer for thy Divine Grace, and in chearful Thanksgivings for the innumerable benefits that I have received from thy bounty, and in tender pity and commiseration of the sad condition of all distressed people. And be pleased to touch the hearts of my Creditors also, with a sense of my miseries: incline them to accept of what I am able to pay, and make me willing conscientiously to satisfie them to the utmost of my power.

In the mean time bestow upon me the blessing of a contented spirit. Help me patiently to endure the inconveniences of this place. And preserve me from the danger of all the temptations, which I meet with in it: especially from seeking a remedy of my sorrows, in the pleasures of intemperance, or evil company, or any prophane mirth whatsoever. Be thou my comfort; O God, my exceeding joy; and the full satisfaction of my soul in all conditions.

And when thou art pleased to deliver me from this place, and restore me again to my desired freedom: O Lord, make me ever mindful of the vows, wherein I am now forward to bind my self. Dispose my heart then to be so sensibly affected, with the least of those mercies, which formerly I have little regarded; that I may never forget to praise thee even for the benefit of a sweeter air than now I enjoy, and to acknowledge thee in the night season

season upon my bed, and to thank thee for the courſeſt food; and eſpecially I may rejoyce to go again into the great Congregation to praiſe thee with the moſt ardent love for all ſpiritual bleſſings in Chriſt Jeſus.

Preſerve in me alſo a grateful remembrance of the kindneſs of my Friends and Neighbours; eſpecially of thoſe perſons to whom I ſtand particularly indebted, when by their charity I ſhall be releaſed. And whatſoever loſs they ſuſtain by my poverty, good Lord, make it up abundantly to them and theirs, out of thy rich grace and mercy. Requite their love with plenty and proſperity in this world; and give them the reward of eternal life and glory in the world to come: through Chriſt Jeſus *Amen.*

A Prayer of a great **Malefactor** *in Priſon.*

O Moſt holy and righteous Judge of the whole world: give a ſinful and miſerable wretch leave to proſtrate himſelf before the Throne of thy Grace, and implore that mercy which formerly I have deſpiſed or abuſed. I am not worthy, I confeſs, to lift up my eyes towards heaven; and it becomes me in the greateſt dejection of ſpirit to ſigh and groan under the load of my ſins: which have been ſo great and many, ſo bold, ſo preſumptuous and ſhameleſs, that when with an awakened mind I reflect upon them, I am ready to ſink into hell, and utterly deſpair of any mercy.

O God, *How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof? and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that admonished me?* How swift have my feet been to run into evil? and how backward and averse have I been to any thing that is good? O the injuries which I have done my Neighbours! the abuse of my self, and of thy good creatures! The prophane contempt or neglect of thee and the duties of thy worship and service! * The remembrance of all this is dreadful, the burden of it is intolerable. Prov. 5. 12, 13.

* *Here let him reckon up the blasphemy, debauchery, and violence that he hath been guilty of.*

How shall I appear before thee, at whose rebuke the mountains quake, since I cannot think of appearing before an earthly Judge without shame and affrightment of spirit? O Lord, work in me a greater dread of thee, with a greater shame and confusion of face; now that I am in thy presence. For which end, be pleased to represent unto me effectually, the wickedness, the baseness and vileness of all my evil doings, as well as the guilt and just desert of them. O that I could hate and abhor them, more than that death, * which I expect shortly to suffer for them! Bestow on me that ingenuous and godly sorrow which worketh repentance, and unfeigned purposes of amendment of life. They come too late indeed, I may justly think, to find acceptance with thee: and therefore, not without fear and trembling, and a great sense of my undeservings, I look up unto thee; acknowledging thy infinite goodness, if thou wilt vouchsafe but the smallest hope of Mercy.

* *Or* punishment; *when the crime is less.*

Mercy, mercy, good Lord: cast me not quite out of thy sight, for Jesus Christ his sake, who gave himself

ſelf for us to redeem us from all iniquity. It is the beginning of ſome mercy, and an earneſt, I hope, of more, that thou haſt made me ſenſible of mine offences; and that thou haſt wrought in me a reſolution to forſake them, and ſome love to a godly, ſober and righteous life. Help me to manifeſt the ſincerity and uprightneſs of my ſoul in theſe reſolutions, as much as I am able; by giving thee hearty thanks that the hand of juſtice hath overtaken and laid hold upon me, and put a ſtop to the further miſchief which I might have committed; and by making a free and open confeſſion of my crimes, and taking the ſhame which belongs to me, before others; and by acknowledging that I am unworthy to live; and by earneſt admoniſhments to all, to be warned by my example, and to ceaſe betimes to do evil, and learn to do well.

O God, that I could glorifie thee a little in my latter end, after this manner. And till I come to receive my deſerved puniſhment, help me to ſpend my time in bewailing my ſins; in humbling my ſelf before thee for them; in ſetting my heart againſt them; in ſtudying and admiring with the greateſt affection the holy life of the Lord Jeſus; in calling other offenders to repentance, and exhorting them thereby to give thee glory. Deny me not the grace, I beſeech thee, to enable me thus to employ my ſelf, that I may have ſome taſte of thy mercy, and the fear of death may be abated by ſome hope, that when my ſoul ſhall be parted from the body, thou, O bleſſed Jeſus, wilt receive it, though ſo unworthy, into ſome of the heavenly manſions. *Amen, Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A Souldier's *Prayer that fights for his Country.*

O Moſt mighty Lord, the Fountain of life and ſtrength, and courage; whom all the hoſt of heaven continually obeys. I proſtrate my ſelf before thee in a religious ſenſe, that the fear of thy divine Majeſty, a pure conſcience, and a ſtrong hope and confidence in thy Omnipotent goodneſs, will give the moſt aſſured reſolution, valour and boldneſs to our ſpirits in all dangers. Moſt humbly beſeeching thee to purge my heart from the love of every thing that is offenſive to thee; to pardon all my former ſins, negligences and ignorances; and to endue me with the grace of thy holy Spirit ſtrictly to amend and reform my life, according to thy holy Word.

Many temptations, I am ſenſible, will continually aſſault me, in this ſtate of life wherein I am engaged. But I as earneſtly beſeech thee to defend me from the power of them, as I deſire to be defended from death, and to be covered by thee in the day of battel. O that no covetous deſires or greedineſs of ſpoil, no ambition or vain glory, no hatred or malice, may puſh me forward in any enterprize! But give me the victory over theſe and all other vile affections and paſſions, before I meet with any other enemy.

And graciouſly bleſs and proſper our arms, for the defence of our Country, and the preſervation of our Religion, Government, Laws and Liberties. And whilſt we fight for the preſervation of good Order, Lord, give us all grace to be examples of it our ſelves. That abhorring all blaſphemy and prophaneneſs, all riot and laſciviouſneſs; and

Luke 3. 14. *doing violence to no man, accusing no man falsly, and being content with our wages*, we may adorn both our Cause and our Religion: and whatsoever the issue be, we may have peace in our own hearts, and living or dying may be accepted with thee, through Christ Jesus the Prince of peace. To whom, *&c. Amen.*

A Prayer for the use of one that is **Aged.**

I Adore thee, O Lord of life and glory; who art from everlasting to everlasting, and changest not: beseeching thee to look graciously upon thy unworthy servant, whose hope is only in thine infinite mercy; by which my life hath been prolonged to old age, and which is able to make me eternally blessed. I thank thee for thy inconceivable love in the Lord Jesus, who hath given me such a solid and stedfast ground of hope, to support and strengthen my heart, when all the comforts of this life fail me: and likewise praise and magnifie thy bounteous goodness for those innumerable blessings, which time after time, thou hast bestowed upon me, from the beginning of my life till this present *.

* *Let them be reckoned up as particularly as you can.*

O my God, help me always to solace my self, now that the days are come wherein I have no pleasure, with a perpetual remembrance of all thy past loving kindnesses to me; and with those hopes which I have of thy endless love in the other world. And the more my outward senses decay, vouchsafe me the quicker and more lively sense in my heart

heart of those good things which thou hast laid up there, for those that fear thee.

Preserve me from all discontented thoughts, and peevish passions. Make me an example unto others of *Holiness, discretion, temperance, gravity, peaceableness and patience*: that so I may with the more authority be *a teacher of good things*; and *my hoary head may be a Crown of glory, being found in the ways of* righteousness. O *how comely a thing is judgment for gray hairs*; *and for ancient men to know counsel*! Pardon me, good Lord, that I have made no better improvement of my time and experience; for the furnishing of my mind with this wisdom, and with those virtues. Pardon all my negligences, and all my offences. *And fill my heart with a comfortable sense of thy pardoning mercy in Christ Jesus: that having no other burden, but that of age, to oppress my spirit, I may rejoyce in thee as long as I live; and at last lay my self down to rest in peace, and return my soul back unto thee chearfully, whensoever thou calleſt for it; in sure and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead, and of that glory, honour and immortality, which thou hast graciously promised us by thy dear Son, my most blessed Lord and Saviour, Christ Jesus. With whom I desire to live to give thee eternal praises. *Amen*.

Tit. 2. 2, 3.

Prov. 20. 29.

Ecclus. 25. 4.

* *Remember them particularly.*

A large

FORM

OF

DEVOTION.

When any perſon is diſpoſed to ſpend a day, or part of it, in Devotion: the uſual addreſſes to God in the morning, may be continued in this manner.

O Moſt High and holy One, who inhabiteſt eternity, and art God over all, moſt bleſſed for evermore. Happy are they who ſtand continually in thy preſence, and are always admiring, praiſing, loving, and obeying thee; and rejoycing in thy love and favour towards them! The higheſt Angels can deſire no greater bliſs, than to be thus knit unto thee, and to live in ſuch conſtant union and friendſhip with thee. An happineſs, I am ſenſible, that is above our reach, who dwell in houſes of clay, and groan under the burden of this fleſh: but which we aſpire towards, and our uncloathed ſpirits hope for, in the other world. And bleſſed be thy infinite goodneſs, we are encouraged by Chriſt Jeſus to look up unto thee, for the beginning and taſte of this happineſs; whilſt we remain here below, at this great diſtance from the throne of thy Glory.

And

And accordingly I humbly proſtrate my ſelf before thee at this time, beſeeching thee in the name of my dear Saviour who gave himſelf for me, that thou wilt graciouſly vouchſafe to inſpire me with ſuch delightful thoughts of thee, and ſuch a tranſforming love unto thee, as may fill my heart with unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction, whilſt I am in thy preſence to admire and adore thee; to praiſe thy incomprehenſible perfections; to acknowledge with all humility my entire dependence on thee; thankfully to remember all the benefits thou haſt done unto me; ſorrowfully to bewail my ungrateful behaviour towards thee; moſt earneſtly to deprecate thy diſpleaſure; to implore thy grace and favour; and to make an abſolute ſurrender of my ſelf to thee, with moſt hearty Devotion to thy ſervice.

It is the unfeigned deſire of my ſoul to ſpend ſome time in attending wholly to theſe duties; the better to diſpoſe me to ſerve thee, in the reſt of my life. But, alas! O Lord, what am I, or what can I do, unleſs thou wilt make thy ſelf preſent to me, and ſend down thy holy Spirit upon me? my thoughts and affections are exceeding dull and heavy; and they will ſoon flag and grow weary; unleſs thou wilt be pleaſed by thy Almighty Power to raiſe and bear them up towards heaven. I moſt humbly therefore again beſeech thee, in thy infinite mercy, to touch my heart with ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy Divine Majeſty, as may fix my wandring thoughts, and compoſe my tumultuous affections, and ſtir up my flat and cold deſires, and may make me feel the power, and taſte the ſweetneſs of every Divine Truth; whilſt I read or meditate in thy holy Word, and whilſt I pray to thee, and praiſe thee, and bleſs thy holy Name.

O that all other things may be ſhut out of my ſoul, and that I may be ſo alone with thee, as to be more apprehenſive of thy greatneſs, and of thy goodneſs, and of thy purity, and of my near relation to thee, and the innumerable obligations which I lye under to be thine entirely! O that nothing may be ſo bitter to me as to think, that I have in the leaſt offended thee! and that nothing may be ſo marvellous in my eyes, as thy exceeding abundant love in the Lord Jeſus, by whom thou haſt encouraged ſinners to place their faith and hope in thee!

Help me, O my God, through that new and living way which he hath conſecrated, to draw nigh unto thee, and to throw down my ſelf at thy feet; waiting for a gracious look from thee, reſigning my will to thee, ſtrongly uniting it in hearty affection to thy holy Will, and reſolving never to riſe up any more in oppoſition to it, but to live in thy love, and in ſincere obedience to all thy commands.

So ſhall my ſoul bleſs thee as long as I live; I will alway be ſpeaking good of thy Name, and will *ſhew forth thy praiſe*, as well as I am able, *to all generations*. Amen.

AFter this ſhort addreſs to God for his aſſiſtance; conſider a while who it is, to whom you have begun to ſpeak. Caſt your eyes upon the heaven and the earth, and think of the glory of that Majeſty, which fills all things, and cannot be contained in any. Then labour to affect your heart with your own mean, vile and ſinful condition. For which end examine what particular ſins you have been guilty of. Set them down in writing before your eyes, that they may be confeſſed and lamented. And likewiſe conſider in the ſame manner, what particular bleſſings you have received, that they may be moſt thankfully acknowledged.

In all which you may assist your selves and be much excited, by reading some of the Psalms *of* David, *and some part of such pious Books as you are acquainted withal. After which, proceed to express the sense of your heart to God, with the greatest deliberation, in the manner following: pausing a while, and ruminating upon what you have said; at the end of every part thereof.*

I

O Most glorious Majesty of heaven and earth, upon whom all creatures depend for life, and breath, and all things. I most thankfully embrace and desire wisely and faithfully to improve this happy leisure, which thou vouchsafest me of retiring from this world, and making my resort to thee, *the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.* Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive from me and from the whole world, *blessing, and honour, and glory, and power*; for *thou art great, and greatly to be praised.* All the Host of Heaven continually praiseth thee; and so ought all the Church on earth, saying; *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which is, which was, and which is to come. There is none holy as the Lord, for there is none besides thee. Thou art righteous in all thy ways, and holy in all thy works. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity; and art excellent in power and in judgment, and in plenty of justice. The earth is thine, and the fulness thereof; the world*

2 Cor. 1. 3.
Rev. 5. 13.
Psal. 48. 1.
Rev. 4. 8.
1 Sam. 2. 2.
Ps. 145. 17. 45. 7
Job 37. 23.
Psal. 19. 1.
Job 42. 2.
Psal. 135. 6.
148. 5, 6. 147. 5.
104. 24, 27.
21, 38.
145. 4. 13.
102. 27.
119. 89.
146. 2.
111. 1.

and they that dwell therein. The heavens
Pſ. 148. 13. *declare the glory of God, the firmament*
Job 11. 7. *ſheweth his handy-work. The ſun, moon and ſtars praiſe the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created. He hath alſo eſtabliſhed them for ever and ever: He hath made a decree which ſhall not paſs. I know, O Lord, that thou canſt do every thing; and that no thought of thine can be hindred. Whatſoever the Lord pleaſes, that doth he in heaven and in earth, in the ſeas, and in all deep places. For he is great, and of great power: his underſtanding is infinite.*

Praiſed be thy Sovereign goodneſs and tender *mercy*, which ſpreads it ſelf *over all thy works. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all. And they all wait on thee: that thou mayeſt give them their meat in due ſeaſon. That thou giveſt them they gather: thou openeſt thy hand, they are filled with good. The glory of the Lord ſhall endure for ever: the Lord ſhall rejoyce in his works.* Thou always waſt, and ever wilt be the moſt holy, powerful, wiſe and good. *Thy kingdom is an everlaſting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. One generation ſhall praiſe thy works to another, and ſhall declare thy mighty acts.* They all paſs away like a ſhadow; *but thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhall have no end. For ever, O Lord, thy word is ſetled in heaven: Thy faithfulneſs is unto all generations. While I live,* therefore, *will I praiſe the Lord: I will ſing praiſes to my God, while I have any being. I will praiſe thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, whoſe name is exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe. For we cannot know the Almighty to perfection: His wiſdom is unſearchable, and his ways paſt finding out. His name alone is excellent, his glory is above the earth and heaven.*

II.

II.

O what high dignity is this! that I am admitted into thy presence to speak unto thee; the *blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who only hast immortality*! O how happy ought I to think my self, that I may draw thus nigh to thee, who dwellest in light unapproachable! who art so happy in thy own most blessed Nature: and who if thou dost but open thy self to any soul, and fillest it with a great sense of thee, and affection to thee, thou letteſt heavenly joys into it, and makest it happy beyond expression! For heaven cannot be separated from thee: but whereſoever thou art, there is peace and satisfaction, joy and gladness, and unspeakable bliss. 1 Tim. 6. 15.

Adored be thy divine goodness, which hath made me so happy this day, as to feel some sense of thee begin to shine in my soul. Adored be thy goodness, which encourages me still to look up unto thee, that I may feel more of thee; yea, hath engaged me by innumerable Mercies, to continue these addresses to thy divine Majesty; *O how excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! How precious are thy thoughts unto me! how great is the sum of them! Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to me-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee; if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.* By thee I was *fearfully and wonderfully made in secret. Thou art he that took me out of my mothers womb; and didst make me hope upon her breasts. I have been cast upon thee ever since*, and thou hast been my gracious God unto this moment. Psal. 36. 7. 139. 17. 46. 5. 22. 9, 10.

My infancy and childhood was attended with a very careful providence. And thou haſt bleſſed my riper years with a continued health and ſtrength of body and mind, and abundance of good things to ſupport and refreſh me in my pilgrimage through this world to a better life. I never have wanted my daily bread, even when I was not able to ask it of thee. And thou haſt beſtowed on me many friends and kind benefactors. And prevented me likewiſe by a timely grace, and ſent me many inſtructors; that I might remember thee my Creator, and Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour. Into whoſe Family, bleſſed be thy Name, I was early adopted, and aſſured of thy fatherly love and tender mercy towards me. O how deeply do I ſtand indebted to thee for all thoſe, by whoſe Counſels, or Sermons, or Writings, or religious Society, or godly Examples, or charitable Prayers, I have been helped forward in my way to heaven! Bleſſed be thy Name for all the means whereby I have been led to the knowledge of thy great love in the Lord Jeſus, which paſſeth knowledge.

For ever bleſſed be thy Name, for ſending him into the world, born of a woman, to be a teacher of righteouſneſs; to go before us, and leave us a pattern of a moſt holy life; to dye for our ſins; and to riſe again for our juſtification; and then to aſcend into the heavens to prepare a place for us; where thou haſt advanced him *above all principalities and powers, and given him a name above every name, that at the name of Jeſus, every knee ſhould bow, and every tongue confeſs him to be the Lord, to the glory of thee, O God, the Father Almighty.* I glorifie thee, O heavenly Father, with all my heart and ſoul, for inſpiring thy holy Apoſtles and Prophets; and *ſhining into their hearts to give the light of the*

Phil. 3. 10, 11.

the knowledge of thy glory, in the face of Jesus Christ. I thank thee for calling me to faith in thee; for making such great and precious promises to encourage our hope; and for disposing me, in any measure, to be an inheritor of them. I thank thee for granting such power to our blessed Lord, to fulfil his word; for making him a royal high-Priest, and appointing him to bless us, here and eternally. 2 Cor 4.6.

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high, who hast so often favoured me with the gracious visitations of thy holy Spirit; enlightning my mind, drawing my will towards thee, exciting in me holy desires, working many pious purposes and resolutions in my heart, giving me a taste how gracious thou art, setting before me the hope of eternal life, and perswading me by innumerable arguments to entertain those blessings which I should have been forward of my self to have desired. *Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord! who can shew forth all his praise!* How often hast thou spared me when I deserved to be punished! How many dangers have I escaped! From how many assaults of the enemy have I been guarded! And how many of his designs have been defeated by an invisible and unobserved goodness, which ought for ever to be acknowledged! * Psal. 6. 2.

Mention all the particular mercies you can remember, and then proceed still to admire his loving kindness, in all those you took no notice of, or have forgotten.

III.

O my God, with what awe and reverence ought I to make mention of thy name, *who dwellest in eternity, whose throne is inestimable, whose glory cannot be comprehended,* 2 Esd 8. 20, 21.

prehended, before whom the Hosts of Angels stand with trembling! With what humility of soul ought I to acknowledge thy Divine Grace, that thou who art so great and highly exalted, wilt humble thy self to take notice of such poor things as we are! Thou art to be admired with our highest thoughts: thou art to be loved with all our heart, and soul, and strength. We ought to render thee most chearful service; and confess that we never serve our selves more, than when we even lose all thought of our selves, and forget all things here, in admiring, loving, praising, and giving thanks to thee.

All that is within me ought to bless thy holy Name. O how great ought my joy to be in thy love, and in thy Salvation, who art *worthy to be praised with all pure and holy praise. Therefore*
Tob. 8. 16. *let thy Saints praise thee, with all thy creatures. And let all thine Angels,*
12. 6. *and thine elect praise thee for ever. It is good to praise God and exalt his Name, and with honour to shew forth all his works; therefore be not slack to praise him.* Yea, to thee, O Lord, I ought to resign my self with the greatest willingness of heart; to trust and hope in thee at all times; to excite all others to shew forth thy praise; and to study to glorifie thee more and more, not only by my words, but with my body and soul, in all the actions of a sober, righteous and godly life. I can desire no greater honour in this world, than that I may live to the praise of the glory of thy grace in Christ Jesus; walking worthy of thee, who hast called me to thy Kingdom and Glory; and behaving my self in all things, as becomes one that hath received such pledges of thy love already, and looks for thy mercy unto eternal life.

All

All thy Laws, I know, are juſt and good. *Thy ways are ways of pleaſantneſs, and all thy paths are peace. More to be deſired are* Prov. 3. 17. *thy commandments than Gold, yea, than* Pſ. 19. 10, 11. *much fine gold: ſweeter alſo than honey,* 119. 165. *and the honey-comb. By them doth thy* 84. 11, 12. *ſervant ſhine glorioufly; and in keeping* Ecclus. 4. 12. *of them there is great reward. He that loveth them, loveth life; he that holdeth them faſt ſhall inherit glory; and whereſoever they enter, the Lord will bleſs. Great peace have they that love thy Law, and nothing ſhall offend them. The Lord God is a ſun and ſhield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he with-hold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hoſts, bleſſed is the man that truſteth in thee!*

IV.

But the more, O Lord, I ſpeak in thy praiſe, the more I am ſenſible, I reproach my ſelf; who have not given thee that honour and glory, that fear and love, that hearty ſervice and chearful obedience, which is due unto thee, ſo many ways. I ſtand condemned out of my own mouth, of moſt fearful ingratitude to thee, from whom I have received ſo many, and ſuch ineſtimable benefits. How ſeldom have I thought of them? Or how little have they affected my heart? How loth have I often been to diſpoſe my ſelf to commemorate the greateſt love of my deareſt Saviour? And how ſoon am I weary, even of the moſt delightful employment, of praiſing and bleſſing thee; With whom I profeſs that I deſire and hope to live for ever, and praiſe thy Name? O the vanity of my mind! the looſeneſs of my thoughts! the inordinateneſs of my deſires, and unruline ſs of my paſſions!

paſſions! the diſcontent of my ſpirit! the unſtedfaſtneſs of my reſolutions! the breach of my promiſes! the coldneſs of my prayers, and the dulneſs of my meditations! the loſs of my precious time, and neglect of good opportunities! my eagerneſs after theſe worldly enjoyments, and feeble indeavours after heaven!

I am aſtoniſhed to think, that ever I ſhould diſtruſt thy providence, who haſt been ſo tenderly careful of me; or be unthankful for thy benefits, which are every moment poured forth ſo plentifully upon me; or be uncharitable to my Neighbours, when I ſtand in ſo great need of mercy my ſelf, and live continually upon thy bounty; or abuſe any of thoſe bleſſings, which thou canſt ſo eaſily deprive me of, or wholly ſpoil the comfort of them. And yet, alas! how prone have I been to deceive my ſelf with ſhadows of Religion and devotion towards thee? and to content my ſelf with the praiſes of thoſe divine perfections, which I have not ſo zealouſly ſtudied to imitate? O how unlike am I to the humble, the meek, the pitiful, and the patient Jeſus? Yea, how inſenſible am I of his incomparable love, which made him to lay down his life for me? How many ways have I injured my Neighbours, or neglected to do them good? I am conſcious to my ſelf of ſundry offences, not only againſt the rules of righteouſneſs and mercy, but of ſobriety and godlineſs *. And thou to whom all things paſt are preſent, who ſearcheſt the hearts and trieſt the reins, knoweſt a great deal more. My ſecret ſins are no more hid from thee, than thoſe which are moſt open and manifeſt.

* *Here mention the particular acts of intemperance, uncharitableneſs, or any elſe you have been guilty of.*

And they are all the more grievous, becauſe a petty temptа-

temptation hath too oft prevailed to make me neglect my duty towards thee. O how ſhameful is it, that a ſmall gain, or a momentany pleaſure, or the good word of men whoſe breath is in their noſtrils, ſhould be preferred before that honour which I owe to thee, and thoſe infinite treaſures of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus, and that immortal life and glory, which he hath promiſed to the faithful! And all this againſt the clear underſtanding which thou haſt given me of thy will; againſt many holy purpoſes, reſolutions and vows of abſolute obedience to it in all things; and againſt the taſtes I have had how gracious thou art, and how good it is to keep thy commandments.

V.

I bluſh, O Lord, to lift up mine eyes towards heaven. To me belongs nothing but ſhame and confuſion of face; in which I ought to lie down before thee, if I reflected only upon the baſeneſs and vileneſs of my deſcent; being the off-ſpring of diſloyal parents, who were rebels and traitors againſt thy divine Majeſty. This is a juſt reproach and diſgrace to the beſt of us. We were tainted in our firſt Father, who hath left a foul blot and ſtain upon our Nature: and we feel that weakneſs in our reaſon, that ſtrength and violence in our paſſions, and that forwardneſs in our wills to follow them, and to be led by them, which is ſufficient to humble and lay us low in our own eyes. With what dejection of ſpirit then ought I to mention all thoſe offences, whereby I or others have juſtified that firſt rebellion, and ſtill taken part with the Devil and his Angels, againſt thee and the motions of thy holy Spirit in our hearts?

Thy

Thy mercy indeed is ſo much the more miraculous, which hath beſtowed ſuch great benefits, as I have acknowledged, upon ſuch vile, ſuch ſinful, ſuch unthankful wretches, and at the beſt ſuch unprofitable creatures; whoſe underſtandings are ſo ſhallow to comprehend and admire thy love; whoſe affections are ſo heavy, ſo liſtleſs, and ſo unapt to lay it to heart; and who, when they have done all that they can, have done no more than was their duty to do. But the greater reaſon there is that I ſhould be confounded at the remembrance of my diſobedience to thee, notwithſtanding ſuch unexpected, as well as undeſerved demonſtrations of thy love and grace towards mankind. It becomes me to bow my ſelf lower than my knees before thee; and to debaſe my ſelf as much as I am able in thy preſence; ſince I am but ſinful duſt and aſhes, that deſerves to be caſt down, even into the pit of deſtruction. The very multitude of my offences is enough to amaze and perplex my thoughts; the weight of them, did I always feel it, may well depreſs and ſink my ſpirit into the greateſt horror and affrightment; but the baſeneſs and ingratitude of them to ſo gracious a Father, O how---

VI.

I am not able to expreſs, O Lord, the ſhame, the conſternation and the trouble of my ſpirit, at the thought of that ingratitude. I loath and abhor my ſelf, as unworthy to live and breathe upon the face of the earth. I am aſtoniſhed at thy wonderful patience, and long-ſuffering, which not only endures ſuch a wretch as I am; but permits me to ſpeak unto thee, and to cry for mercy to that love, which I have ſo much abuſed. O that

I

I were ſenſibly affected with ſomething of thee! That at leaſt thy ſparing and forbearing mercy did mightily move, and everlaſtingly poſſeſs my heart with admiration of it! That ſo I may with the more ingenuous ſorrow and grief bewail mine offences, againſt ſuch tender bowels of compaſſion towards me. O *that my head were wa-* Jer. 9. 1.
ters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears,
that I might weep bitterly for my unkind requitals of the infinite bounty of thee my Creator, and of the inconceiveable love of my bleſſed Saviour, and of the unwearied grace of thy holy Spirit, which I hope I ſtill feel working in my heart!

Fill me, O God, with the ſaddeſt remembrance of all my follies; and poſſeſs my reaſon ſo much againſt them, that I may have an utter hatred and deteſtation of them, as the greateſt offences to me, as well as to thy divine Majeſty. It is eaſier, I know, to make large confeſſions, than to be truly contrite and broken in heart: and we are more inclined to ſigh and groan under the
ſenſe of thy diſpleaſure, than to Rom. 12. 9.
abhor that which is evil, and to cleave Pſal. 42. 8.
to that which is good. Be thou there- Dan. 5. 23.
fore pleaſed, O Lord, the Father
of our ſpirits, to wound my ſoul with a lively ſenſe of the vileneſs of my behaviour towards thee, *the God of my life, in whoſe hand my breath is, and whoſe are all my ways.* Eſtrange me from every thing, that will not let me love thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength; by whom it is that I have power to love any thing at all. Set my heart in ſuch a perfect enmity to all things contrary to thy bleſſed will, that I may never be reconciled to them any more. And diſpoſe me to ſuch an entire affection to all thy commands, that none of them

them may be grievous to me, but I may account thy yoke to be easie, and thy burden to be light

And then *be merciful unto me*, good Lord. *according to thy loving kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.* Be merciful unto me for Jesus his sake, who came into the world, and died to save sinners. O *remember not the sins of my youth nor the transgressions* of my riper years: *according to thy mercy remember thou me, for thy goodness sake, O Lord. For I confess mine iniquity, and am sorry for my sin. I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. Enter not therefore into judgment with thy servant: for if thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities; O Lord, who shall stand? but there is forgiveness with thee: that thou mayest be feared. Thou art good and ready to forgive: and plentious in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. Give ear therefore unto my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplications. And for thy names sake pardon mine iniquity, for it is great,*

Psal. 51. 1.
25. 7.
38. 18.
32. 5.
143. 2.
130. 3, 4.
86. 5, 6.
25. 11.

VII.

Great are thy tender mercies, O Lord; who hast not yet cast me away from thy presence, nor dealt with me after my sins, nor rewarded me according to mine iniquities. Adored be thine infinite goodness, that I am so far from being cast into the place of weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth, that I do not yet suffer here the pains, and the anguish and misery, which mine offences have deserved. I might have been lamenting them in those doleful complaints of thy ancient ser-

ervant; saying, *thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore. There is no soundness in my flesh, because of thine anger: neither is there any rest in my bones, because of my sin. I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loyns are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.* But thanks be to thy most long suffering goodness, *thy fierce anger goeth not over me; thy terror hath not cut me off. Lovers and friends hast thou not put far from me; nor mine acquaintance into darkness.* Ps. 38. 2, 3, 6, &c. 88. 16, 18.

Yea, thou declarest thy self willing to accept me again into friendship with thy self. And hast in the most loving manner invited me to come unto thee, and bid me hope for a pardon through thy mercy in Christ Jesus. O how sweet are those gracious words; *Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest!* How precious are thy promises, *that thou wilt put thy laws into our mind, and write them in our hearts: And be merciful to our unrighteousness, and remember our sins and iniquities no more!* Marvellous was thy mercy, O Lord Jesus, who sent thine Apostles *to open mens eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they might receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them, who are sanctified by faith that is in thee.* Math 11. 26. Heb. 8. 10, 12. Acts 26. 28.

VIII.

I receive with all thankfulness this thy exceeding great grace, which hath declared, that *if we walk in the light, as thou art in* 1 John 1. 7.

the

the light, we ſhall have fellowſhip one
Eccl. 17. 29. *with another, and the bloud of Jeſus*
Chriſt thy Son ſhall cleanſe us from all
ſin. I admire thy incomprehenſible love. O *how great is the loving kindneſs of the Lord our God, and his compaſſion unto ſuch, as turn unto him in holineſs!* It conſtrains me to offer up my ſelf with the heartieſt affection to thy ſervice, reſolving hereafter to be more watchful, more diligent, more zealous in the performance of my duty; and to walk more circumſpectly as a child of the light, and to make it my delight to do thy will, O God. Behold, O Lord my heart is bent to reſign it ſelf perfectly into thy hands: and to make a new dedication of all the powers of my ſoul and body to be employed continually in well doing. *I have ſworn and am*
Pſal. 119. 30. *ſtedfaſtly purpoſed to keep thy righteous*
31. 11. *precepts. I have choſen the way of*
14. 15. *truth; thy judgments have I laid be-*
16. 115. *fore me. I will ſtick unto thy teſtimo-*
111. 112. *nies: and run the way of thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in my heart; that I may not ſin againſt thee. I will rejoyce in the way of thy teſtimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have reſpect unto thy ways. I will delight my ſelf alſo in thy ſtatutes: I will never forget thy word. Depart from me, ye evil doers: for I will keep the commandments of my God. Thy teſtimonies have I taken as my heritage for ever: for they are the rejoycing of my heart. I have inclined my heart to perform thy ſtatutes alway; even unto the end.*

IX.

Accept, I beſeech thee, the free-will-offerings of my mouth, O Lord, and teach me thy judgments. Pſ. 119. 108, 34, 35, 10, 115, 116, 117.

Give

Give me underſtanding, and I ſhall keep thy law: yea I ſhall obſerve it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. With my whole heart have I ſought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. I am ſenſible of the exceeding great weakneſs and inconſtancy of our nature, and that without thy gracious aids, I ſhall not be able to accompliſh theſe reſolutions. And therefore I look up unto thee, with the more ardent deſires, for power from above, to confirm and ſtrengthen them; and to aſſiſt me mightily to fulfil thy whole good will and pleaſure. I will ſtedfaſtly depend upon the promiſe of my bleſſed Saviour, who hath told me that thou wilt give thy holy ſpirit to them that ask it of thee. My hope, O God, is in this thy true and faithful word. *Uphold me according unto thy Word, that I may live; and let me not be aſhamed of my hope. Hold thou me up, and I ſhall be ſafe: and I will have reſpect unto thy ſtatutes continually.* Preſerve in me ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy good will and readineſs to help me, that I may be ſo *ſtrong in our Lord and in the power of his might*, as to be *able to do all things through Chriſt ſtrengthening of me.*

O thou Father of mercies, who haſt beſtowed ſo many and ſo great bleſſings on us without asking; who haſt viſited us ſo lovingly, when we could not deſire any grace from thee; and when we could, but did not deſire it; and when we did, but very coldly; and with little devotion of ſpirit: deny not the humble and importunate requeſts of thy poor ſupplicant, who moſt earneſtly beſeeches thee, *that thou wilt grant me, according to the riches of thy glory, to be ſtrengthened with might, by thy Spirit, in the inner man.* Arm me therewith againſt the aſſaults of all temptations, either

Ephes. 3. 16.

either from the good, or the evil things of this life; that they may never ſeduce, or deter me from my duty: but I may do virtuouſly in all points, according to my Chriſtian profeſſion, and thoſe vows and promiſes, wherein I ſtand ingaged to thee.

X.

Fill me, O God, with the whole knowledge of thy *Will, in all wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding, that I may walk worthy of the Lord, unto all pleaſing, being fruitful in every good work, and increaſing in the knowledge of thee, my God.* Increaſe that faith, likewiſe more and more, which *worketh by love*, and *purifieth the heart*, and *overcometh the world.* Stir up in me that lively hope, which may make me *purifie my ſelf, even as thou art pure:* and that ardent love to thee, which will make me chearfully do thy will, and love my Brethren, *with a pure heart fervently.*

Excite in me a *great hunger and thirſt after righteouſneſs*; till I feel the ſatisfaction of perfect reconciliation with thee, and conformity to thee. Continue me in the number of thoſe, who are humble and lowly in their own eyes, and moderate in all their appetites and deſires, who mourn daily that they have offended thee, and that others keep not thy Laws: who are *meek and gentle towards all men*, in heart and word, and all their actions: who are *merciful* and kind, ready to give and to forgive: who are pure in all their thoughts, intentions, paſſions and converſation: and who ſtudy the things that *make for peace*; and who are void of all pride and vain glory, of all ſtrife and contention; *endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.* O my God, poſſeſs me with ſuch a ſtrong

ſenſe

ſenſe of the bleſſedneſs which thou haſt pronounced to all theſe; that I may be willing alſo to ſuffer wrong rather than to do it, and to ſuffer any thing for righteouſneſs ſake with a conſtant heart; giving thanks unto thee that thou wilt honour me, and count me worthy *to ſuffer for the name of Chriſt.*

Help me to give a good example to all my Neighbours by the ſincere practice of all theſe virtues: *ſhining as a light in the world,* and being *the ſalt of the earth*: That others *ſeeing my good works, may glorifie thee our heavenly Father.* Diſpoſe my heart *to caſt all its care on thee; to pray without ceaſing; to bleſs thy holy name at all times; to truſt in thee,* with a ſtedfaſt confidence in thy Almighty goodneſs; to make thee *my ſtrength and my fortreſs, and the rock of my ſalvation; to have my converſation without covetouſneſs; and to ſet my affections on things above, where Chriſt is at thy right hand. In the multitude of my thonghts within me, let thy comforts, O Lord delight my ſoul.* When I am full. O that I may never wax wanton, or forget thee; but *ſtill rejoyce in our Lord alway*: that ſo when I *have nothing,* I may be *as poſſeſſing all things.*

Let the doing of my duty ever be my pleaſure: and to ſerve thee be a great reward. Let a contented mind, be inſtead of all that I want: and a thankful heart, ſweeten all my enjoyments. Let patience always eaſe me under my burdens, and an entire ſubmiſſion to thy will, breed in me a ſetled tranquillity of ſpirit. Let my delight be in the excellent that are in the earth: and my thoughts be very much there while I live, where I deſire to be when I dye. That heaven being my aim, my hope, and the longing expectation of my ſoul, I may conquer all difficulties in my way to it; and go through honour and diſhonour, good report and bad report, proſperity and adverſity, with the ſame chearfulneſs

chearfulneſs and evenneſs of mind; till at laſt I come to that place of reſt and peace with the glorified Jeſus, who is able to give eternal life to them that obey him.

XI.

Bleſſed be thy name, who haſt inſpired my heart with theſe holy deſires; and wrought theſe purpoſes and reſolutions in me. It is an earneſt, I hope, of thy never failing love towards me; in aſſurance of which I repoſe my ſelf with full ſatisfaction of heart. Yea, this is my joy and my glory, that I know thee; and that I live under the care of thy wiſe, merciful, and almighty providence at preſent, and that I have the promiſe of remiſſion of ſins, and of a crown of life; *when the times of refreſhment ſhall come from thy preſence, and thou ſhalt ſend Jeſus* to conduct all the faithful to that glorious place where he lives. *This is my ſalvation and all my deſire.* Now that I ſee thy abundant love, O heavenly Father, it ſufficeth. Rejoyce with me likewiſe, all ye Angels of God, according to the word of our Lord, that *there is joy in heaven over one ſinner that repenteth. Bleſs the Lord, ye heavenly hoſts, ye miniſters of his that do his pleaſure.* And, O that this joy may increaſe continually by my daily increaſe in all goodneſs, and the perfecting of my repentance! till I come to be admitted into their company, and *enter into the joy of my Lord.*

Acts 3. 19,
2 Sam. 23. 5.
Luke 15. 7.
Pſ. 103. 21.

XII.

And I wiſh the ſame happineſs to all mankind, which I deſire for my ſelf. It will multiply my joy to ſee

ſee all the people praiſe thee, O God, to ſee all the people praiſe thee. *O make a joyful noiſe unto the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladneſs, and come before his preſence with thankſgiving. Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and ſtrength. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worſhip the Lord with holy worſhip: fear before him all the earth.* Pſ. 100. 1. 96. 8, 9.

More eſpecially, I deſire the increaſe of *grace, mercy and peace* to thy choſen people: Beſeeching thee to bleſs thy univerſal Church, and to fill the hearts of all its members with thy love; that they may reſt neither day nor night, ſaying, Bleſſed be God: Bleſſed be the glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth, whoſe power, wiſdom and goodneſs excel all praiſe, and endure for ever. And *ariſe, O God, for the ſighing of the poor and the needy: let not the men of the earth always oppreſs them. Let the ſalvation of thy people come out of thy holy place. Be thou exalted in thy own ſtrength, and ſo will we ſing and praiſe thy power. Lord, continue thy loving kindneſs unto thoſe that know thee, and thy righteouſneſs to men of upright heart. Let not the foot of pride come againſt them: and let not the hand of the wicked remove them. O let the wickedneſs of the wicked come to an end: but eſtabliſh thou the juſt.* Pſal. 10. 18. 14. 7. 21. 13. 36. 10, 11, 12. 7. 9.

Protect, O Lord, and defend that part of thy Church which thou haſt planted in theſe Kingdoms. Great and innumerable have been thy mercies to us: but, alas! we are a *ſtubborn and rebellious people; a people that ſet not our heart aright, and whoſe ſpirit hath not been ſtedfaſt with thee.* And

therefore thou haſt juſtly plagued us many ways: and we ſhould have but our deſerts, if thy hand ſhould ſtill be ſtretched out to *puniſh us ſeven times more for* our ſins.

Pſal. 78. 8. 2Eſdras 8. 34, 35. 36. Pſal. 79. 8, 9. 118. 25. *But what is man, that thou ſhouldſt take diſpleaſure at him? or what is a corruptible generation, that thou ſhouldeſt be extremely angry with them? For in truth there is none among them but hath dealt wickedly: and among the faithful there is none that hath not done amiſs. But in this, O Lord, thy righteouſneſs and goodneſs ſhall be declared, if thou be merciful to them which have not the confidence of good works.*

O be merciful unto us, be merciful unto us; and do not utterly forſake us. O *remember not againſt us former iniquities*, and that we have *ſo ſoon forgot thy works*, and the wonderful deliverances which thou haſt given us. *Help us, O God of our ſalvation, for the glory of thy name, and deliver us, and purge away our ſins for thy names ſake.* Fill us with thy wiſdom from above, that we may be heartily in love with the Religion, which we profeſs: and preſerve us in it for ever. Defeat the counſels of all its enemies: and bring their wicked devices to nought. Unite us to each other in brotherly love: amd make us at peace among our ſelves. O let peace be within this Church: *Let them proſper that love her, and ſeek her good.* Save *now, I beſeech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beſeech thee ſend now proſperity.*

And for that end endue our Sovereign Lord, the King, with all the gifts and graces of thy holy Spirit. Hear the daily prayers of thy Church for him; *that he may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way: and ſtudy to preſerve thy people committed to his charge, in wealth, peace, and godlineſs.* Enlighten all our Biſhops, Prieſts and Deacons

Deacons with true knowledge and understanding of thy word; and enable them both by their life and doctrine to set it forth, and shew it accordingly. Teach all our Counsellors and Senators wisdom: and give all our Magistrates courage and zeal, to execute justice, and to maintain Truth. Vouchsafe to all thy People increase of grace, to hear thy word with meekness, and receive it with pure and sincere affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the spirit. Give them honest and good hearts, to honour and obey the King, and all that are put in authority under him; to submit themselves to all their Governours, Teachers, spiritual Pastors and Masters; to order themselves lowly and reverently to all their betters; to be careful not to hurt one another by word or deed; to be just and true in all their dealing; to bear no malice nor hatred in their hearts; to preserve themselves in temperance, soberness and chastity; not to covet one anothers goods; but to learn and labour truly to get their own living, and to do their duty in that state of life, unto which it hath pleased thee to call them.

And, good Lord, bless the honest labours of all men among us, and crown them with good success: Especially of those who have any work in hand, for the glory of thy name, the increase of Christian piety, and the peace of thy Church. Reward the bounty of all charitable persons, either for the honour of Religion, or the relief of them that are in poverty. And make the bones which thou hast broken to rejoyce. Comfort all that are in a sorrowful condition: and bring them out of all their troubles. Send thy Angel to guide and preserve those who are in journeys, upon their lawful occasions. Let them that go down into the deep, and do business upon the great waters, observe thy providence; and praise thee for thy goodness, and for thy wonder-

ful works for the children of men. Forgive all that have done me any evil: and requite the kindneſs of thoſe who have done me any good.

Let their ſouls abide in good, and their ſeed inherit the earth. Pſal. 25. 13. Rejoyce the heart of all my Friends: and fulfil the petitions of all that have deſired my prayers. *Let none that wait on thee, O Lord, be aſhamed: let all them that truſt in thee, ſay continually, the Lord be magnified. Save and deliver* every one of *us, O Lord our God, from the hands of our enemies, to give thonks unto thy holy name, and to triumph in thy praiſe. Bleſſed be the God and Father of our* Lord Jeſus Chriſt, *from everlaſting to everlaſting; and let all the people ſay, Amen. Praiſe the Lord.* 105. *ult.*

After this, if the ſpirits be tired, it will be fit to give them ſome refreſhment. And then it will be very profitable to read and weigh ſeriouſly our Savour's Sermon on the Mount, contained in the V. VI. and VII. Chapters of the Goſpel according to S. Matthew. *And ſuch Meditations may be interſperſed as are moſt ſuitable to the perſon's condition and occaſions: With the addition of ſome of the prayers foregoing, for* RESOLUTION *in well doing, or for the* DIVINE GRACE; *or for good* SUCCESS *in any buſineſs, or for Friends that are* TROUBLED IN MIND, *or are in a long* JOURNEY, &c. *And then conclude with the following Prayer and Thankſgiving.*

I.

I Most humbly adore and worship thee, O Lord most high, the possessor of heaven and earth; And admire thy infinite love to mankind, whom thou hast thought worth the expence of the blood of thy dear Son, and the conduct and assistance of the Holy Ghost, and the Ministry of Angels (by whom thou exercisest a most watchful providence over us) and so many gracious messages from heaven, wherein thou hast plainly declared, that thou desirest to see us eternally happy, by being made partakers of a Divine Nature. When we seriously consider thy glorious perfections, and thy astonishing kindness towards us, we may justly wonder at our selves, that we should ever refuse to be conformed to thy will, nay, that we should not be exceeding forward to joyne our selves unto thee, in most hearty love and entire friendship with thee. I am amazed at the dulness and stupidity of our Nature; that there should need so many intreaties and beseechings of us, to be so happy. It is impossible to think of thee, and to prefer any thing in our esteem, and desire and choice, and delight and joy, before thy favour and good will towards us: who art so able and so desirous to bestow the greatest bliss upon us. And therefore I most earnestly beseech thy goodness, that to all other mercies which I have begged of thee, thou wilt add this grace, to bring thy self often to my remembrance, and to possess my heart with a constant, serious and deep sense of thy marvellous kindness; in giving me liberty to chuse so great a good as thy self, and in propounding to my will such everlasting happiness; and in drawing me from those ways, which are contrary even to my peace

and ſatisfaction here, by ſuch powerful motives to well doing.

II.

Awaken, O Lord, awaken this ſenſe continually in my mind. Faſten my thoughts upon thoſe unſeen and eternal enjoyments. Make me feel what an happineſs it is to love thee with all my heart, to cleave unto thee againſt all temptations which would allure or affright me from my duty; to bleſs and praiſe thee with joyful lips; to be kept in perfect peace and tranquility, while my mind is ſtayed on thee; to be full and ſatisfied, and to deſire nothing more, but to live for ever in thy love. O make me more and more to conceive and remember, what an infinite delight, thou the infinite good canſt pour forth into us; how highly our Lord Jeſus is dignified and exalted; and that Pſal. 21. 6. *thou haſt made him moſt bleſſed for ever, and made him exceeding glad with thy countenance*; and that he will bring all thy children unto his glory: Settle in my ſoul ſuch ſtrong apprehenſions of theſe things; that they may purifie my heart more perfectly, and provoke me to an unwearied diligence in well doing, and make me *endure hardſhip* alſo, if need be, *as a good ſouldier of Jeſus Chriſt, who was made perfect through ſufferings.*

III.

And aſſiſt me eſpecially in theſe holy addreſſes to thee; that *continuing inſtant in prayer*, I may feel my heart lifted up more and more towards heaven, by ardent breathings after thee. And endue me likewiſe with ſuch a ſpirit of wiſdom, and ſuch ſincerity of heart, that I may never be diſcouraged though

though I fall short of the height of my desires: but I may always thankfully acknowledge thy grace, in what I have attained, and labour earnestly to grow better, with a quiet, patient, even and steady mind. Preserve in me an humble confidence, that thou wilt never forsake the work of thine own hands: and let that confidence make me industrious, but not slothful. And let thy holy Spirit bless and further my endeavours; and a fervent desire and hearty good will press me forward; and the pleasures of Religion mightily indear it to me; and the joy that thou hast set before me, make me run the way of thy commandments with an enlarged heart. And the nearer I come to the end of my race, may it please thy goodness to present me with a clearer sight of that Crown of Life, which our Lord hath promised! Open to me more of the treasures of thy Kingdom, and fill me with a greater joy in hope of thy glory: that so I may be willing to be *dissolved, and to be with Christ, which is best of all.*

IV.

And now, O Lord, what thanks shall I render unto thee for these holy thoughts, desires and affections, which by thy grace I feel in my heart: together with all the other benefits, which thou hast bestowed on me, or intendest for me. Great and marvellous things, O God, hast thou wrought for the children of men: and thou hast promised far greater, if we will be but truly grateful unto thee, for what we have already received. Thou sendest one blessing, as the earnest of another: having given thy Son to us, that he might give us thy holy Spirit; and given him to dye for us, that he might give us life. Thou grantest to us

thy grace, that we may repent: and thou giveſt repentance, that thou mayeſt give us pardon: and thou pardoneſt our ſins, that we may be thy children; and being thy children thou deſigneſt to make us thy heirs together with our bleſſed Saviour. Thou giveſt us temporal bleſſings, that we may thirſt after ſpiritual: and thou filleſt us with ſpiritual bleſſings in Chriſt, that we may long for the accompliſhment of them in immortal life. There is none can declare the goodneſs of the Lord. We beſt declare our ſenſe of it, when we thankfully receive it; and become as good as thou wouldſt have us, and enableſt us to be. And how great, how free is that goodneſs, which is moſt of all pleaſed when we are happy! and eſteems our doing our ſelves good, with thy grace and favour, the return that we ſhould make of thy bounty! Thou doſt us good before we ask; and thou giveſt liberally unto us, that thou mayeſt move us to ask more. Thou entreateſt us when we are unwilling: thou beſeecheſt us, that we would let thee bleſs us, and not put impediments in the way of our own happineſs: thou pitieſt us, when we have no compaſſion for our ſelves; and art ſtill careful of us, when we trifle away the richeſt mercies.

V.

O the exceeding riches of thy grace to the children of men! who can number all thy mercies? and who can underſtand the greatneſs of thoſe, of which we make mention? It is eaſier to ſpeak of them, than to be affected with the multitude and ſurpaſſing value of them: and we can ſooner be affected with them, than do any thing worthy ſuch excellent love. Our Praiſes and Thankſgivings conſiſt too much in words, and tranſient admirations, and

and ſudden paſſions. O that I had ſuch a ſerious, ſuch a conſiderate heart, as to return unto thee, the conſtant, uniform, and chearful obedience of a godly life! By which, I know, I ſhall not only moſt praiſe and glorifie thee, but do the greateſt benefit to my ſelf. And when I have done all that I can, I will acknowledge my ſelf an unprofitable ſervant, that hath done no more, than was his duty to do. I will eſteem all *my* goodneſs, to be the fruit of *thy* great goodneſs to me. And I will rejoyce in this, that thou art formed in me, and that I am made like unto the Son of thy love; and that I have hopes through thy abundant and undeſerved mercy to live with him in his heavenly Kingdom. Which I beſeech thee haſten, to the eternal joy of all thoſe that *love his appearing*. Amen, Amen. *Let thy kingdom come; that I may ſee the good of thy choſen, and glory with thine inheritance*: and we may all with united hearts and affections render our thanks unto thee, and ſing thy everlaſting praiſes.

The grace of our Jeſus Chriſt, and the love of God, and the communication of the Holy Ghoſt, be with me, and with all thy people every where, both now and always. *Amen.*

A Prayer in Lent, *or upon any publick* Faſt.

I.

O Moſt glorious God; who art from everlaſting to everlaſting bleſſed in thy ſelf; and who alone canſt ſatisfie the hungry ſoul, and filleſt the humble with good things. In a ſerious

ſenſe of my own emptineſs and thy fulneſs; of my great needs, and thy bounty and readineſs to beſtow thy benefits, I caſt down my ſelf before thee: worſhipping and adoring thine incomprehenſible perfections, with a great fear of thy Almighty Majeſty, and an humble hope in thine infinite goodneſs, and an hearty love to thy purity and righteouſneſs, and entire ſubmiſſion to thy holy Will: believing thy gracious promiſes, deſiring to be guided by thy wiſdom, depending on thy providence, bleſſing and praiſing thee for thy unſpeakable mercies to me, and earneſtly beſeeching the continuance of them; with a continued ſenſe in my heart of thy abundant goodneſs to me and to all thy creatures, and of thoſe duties which I owe to thee, and to all men.

II.

I moſt ſorrowfully bewail my careleſneſs, O Lord, that I have had ſo ſeldom, or ſo ſhort, or ſo cold and little affecting thoughts of thee: and that I have performed theſe acts of worſhip and adoration, of fear and reverence, of faith and love, of ſubmiſſion and reſignation, of ſupplication and thankſgiving, with ſo little intention and earneſtneſs of mind, with ſo little zeal and fervency of affection, and with ſo little humility and proſtration of ſpirit. Nothing, O my God, is of ſo bitter remembrance to my thoughts, nothing is ſuch a load to my heart, as that I have loved the world, at any time, more than thee; and purſued with greater eagerneſs the poſſeſſions, and pleaſures, and honours of a dying life, than the glory and treaſures of thy Kingdom, the joy and happineſs of eternal endurance. It grieves me to think that I have, at any time, ſo coldly entertained the

glad

glad tidings of ſalvation; ſo liſtleſly embraced the loving invitations of my dear Saviour; ſo negligently improved the helps and aſſiſtances of the holy Spirit of Grace; and ſo faintly ſought, I ſorrowfully again acknowledge, that glory, honour and immortality which Chriſt hath brought to light by his Goſpel. How little have I been wounded with the dying and bleeding of thine only begotten Son for my ſake! How little concern'd ſometimes in his paſſionate deſires of the happineſs of mankind! How little melted with the ardent flames of his incomparable love! How little moved or perſwaded with his importunate intreaties! How incompliant with his inſpirations, diſobedient to his commands, and inſenſible of his precious promiſes, and fearful threatnings!

III.

I have praiſed thee, alas! but ſeldom or ſlightly, for ſo glorious an example, as he hath left us, of an holy life; for the effects and fruits of his paſſion and interceſſion; and for the power which he hath obtained at thy right hand. And loather have I, too often, been to imitate his life, and to employ that power which he hath ſent me from heaven, to bring my heart to a conformity with his pattern. How often have I received thy good creatures without ſuch ſerious and hearty thankſgivings for them, as they deſerve! and taſted their ſweetneſs, with little ſenſe of thee, or delight in thee, who art the fountain of all bliſs: How ſolicitous have I been to pleaſe men, and obtain the good opinion and praiſe of others; rather than to pleaſe thee, and to do thy Commandments, *the praiſe of which endureth for ever!* O the little envyings that have been in my heart at my

Brethrens

Brethrens greater prosperity! and my aptness to be angry and peevish; to entertain suspicions easily; to make wrong or unkind interpretations; to aggravate offences; and to keep too long a sense of injuries! I hate my self even for these things. O how vile then and odious are all those sins of injustice, or unmercifulness, of which I may have been guilty!*

* *Here confess them particularly.*

IV.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord, be merciful unto me; through the blood of that spotless Lamb, which was shed for the sins of the world. Remember not against me the vanity of my thoughts, the errors and mistakes of my judgment, the pride of my spirit, the greediness of my sensual desires, the violence and disorder of any of my passions, the unruliness of my tongue, the inconstancy of my purposes, or the baseness and unworthiness of any of my ends and intentions. O Holy God, and merciful Father, enter not into judgment with me for the mispense of my precious time, for letting slip any good opportunities, or for my ill husbanding the many Talents, which thou hast intrusted me withal. Let not the abuse of any of thy creatures, the ill example that I have given to any of my Neighbours, my unthankfulness for a world of mercies, my inobservance or forgetfulness of thy fatherly providences, and my insensibleness of others miseries, be charged upon me at the day of our Lord, or incense thy severe displeasure against me in this present life. O remember not my immoderate sorrow for worldly losses; my excessive pleasure in abundance of any worldly enjoyments; the deadness of my grief, and the scarcity of my tears, for my own sins, and the sins of others; and the

the heartleſneſs of my joys in thee, and in thy Son Chriſt; and for all the good thou haſt done to me and to my Brethren, or which they do for thy honour and the comfort of thy people. Let not any diſcontent with my condition, provoke thee to make it worſe: nor my want of love to thee, deprive me of the love of others: nor the breach of any of my reſolutions, be puniſhed with an indifferency and careleſneſs of ſpirit: nor the abuſe of any of thy bleſſings, or unthankfulneſs for them, move thine offended goodneſs to ſtrip me naked of them.

V.

But gracious Lord, ſo pardon me, as to give me the grace of thy holy Spirit to change and renew me throughout, in ſpirit, ſoul and body, and to enable me daily to amend my life according to thy holy word. That's the hearty deſire and purpoſe of my ſoul: which longs for nothing more than a power from above, to poſſeſs me with more ſteady and affectionate thoughts of thee; and to fill me with a more inflamed love to thee, and to all my Brethren; and to diſpoſe my will to reſign it ſelf in all things to thee, and chearfully to comply with thy providence, and zealouſly to employ all holy opportunities of doing or receiving good. O God deny me not this great grace, though unworthy of the leaſt; but ſtrengthen me with might by thy Spirit in the inner man. Let it teach and direct me in the right way; let it aſſiſt me to walk in it; let it conſtantly encourage my progreſs; chearing and refreſhing me when I am ready to faint, upholding me when I am ready to fall, recovering me when I ſlip, enabling me with fervent deſires to implore thy mercy, and with reſolved watchfulneſs

neſs to ſtrengthen my ſelf againſt all temptations for the time to come.

VI.

Preſerve in me ſuch a ſerious and deep ſenſe of the worth of my ſoul, of the weight of all eternity, of the certainty and greatneſs of the glory which ſhall be revealed, that they may prevail more with me than all the honours, and riches, and pleaſures of this life. Prepoſſeſs me with a clear underſtanding of the Goſpel of our Saviour, with a ſtrong faith, a fervent charity, and a lively hope, againſt all other things that preſs upon me, and ſolicite my affections: that ſo nothing may find admittance into my heart, but what ſhall ſubmit to thy laws, and live under the government and diſcipline of our Lord Jeſus. Inſtruct me how to make all my pleaſures diſcreet, moderate and uſeful to me; that they may never take up the beſt of my time, nor devour the ſtrength of my mind. Teach me to uſe the riches of this world aright, and to do good to my ſelf and others with them. Diſpoſe me to look upon greatneſs or honours but as greater opportunities to do thee more honour, and the world more ſervice. Moderate all my paſſions, and ſubdue them perfectly to the obedience of Reaſon and Religion. O that all my converſation with others may be innocent and profitable: and my private retirements more devout and heavenly: and all my imployments without inordinate cares and fears, or any diſtruſt of thy good providence. Help me to look upon long life as deſirable, only that I may have more time to root out perfectly all evil habits and diſpoſitions, to implant and increaſe all Divine Virtues, and to do the more good; that I may

be

be better fitted for an happy life, world without end. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

The ſame Prayer may be uſed in time of any publick Calamity: and ſome of theſe following Prayers added, as there ſhall be occaſion.

A Prayer in time of Plague.

GReat and many, O Lord, are the ſins whereby we have provoked thee in theſe Kingdoms, to ſend all thy ſore judgments upon us: *the ſword, the famine, and the peſtilence, to cut off from them man and beaſt.* It is only of thine infinite mercies, that we are not utterly conſumed, and becauſe thy compaſſions fail not. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that we are not yet delivered into the hands of thoſe that hate us; but only corrected by thy own hand, who art the Father of mercies. To them we flee now in our great diſtreſs; and beſeech thee, that thou wilt not ſhut up the bowels of thy tender mercy and compaſſion towards us in diſpleaſure. But puniſh us, that thou mayeſt pardon us, and amend us, and make us a more devout, ſober, righteous and charitable people, zealous of good works. Say to thy deſtroying Angel, Hold thy hand, it is enough.

Or

Or if thou art pleaſed to have it ſtill ſtretched out againſt us, give grace to us who are yet in health to ſpend our time in examining our hearts and lives; in bewailing our offences; in ſetling our purpoſes of repentance and new obedience; in inuring our ſelves to delight in Prayer and holy Meditation; in giving thanks to thee for thy merciful preſervation of us; in preparing our ſelves for whatſoever change thou art pleaſed to make in our condition; and in doing good with compaſſionate hearts, to thoſe poor people, that lye under thy heavy viſitation. And graciouſly vouchſafe to beſtow upon them entire patience and ſubmiſſion to thy Will: and enable them with unfeigned repentance and humble hope in thy mercy, to reſign themſelves and theirs into thy hands; that howſoever thou ſhalt diſpoſe of any of us, living or dying we may be the Lord's.

Lord have mercy upon us all, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake. Amen.

In time of **War.**

O God, who haſt juſtly puniſhed our carnal ſecurity, and abuſe of that peace and quietneſs which we have enjoyed, by making us *hear the ſound of the trumpet, and the allarm of war*; be merciful unto us, I moſt humbly beſeech thee: and awaken every one of our ſouls thereby, to ſearch and try our ways, and to turn unto thee by a timely repentance and amendment of our lives. Though we deſerve to be cut off by the ſword, which is unſheathed

unsheathed, as a *foolish people that have not known thee; sottish children,* Jer. 4. 22. *that have no understanding; who are wise to do evil, but to do good have no* Joel 2. 17. *knowledge:* yet *spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, and give not thy heritage to reproach.*

O thou God of peace, who didst send thy own Son among thine enemies, to make reconciliation between lost men and thy self; inspire our hearts, and the hearts of all those with whom we are at difference, with a love of peace: and incline us to hearken and consent to reasonable terms of reconciliation. And for that end root out of every one of our minds and hearts all pride and ambition; all inordinate desire of greatness and dominion; all covetousness, and greediness of wealth; all false opinions, prejudices, and misapprehensions; all anger, passion and causeless jealousies; and especially all study of revenge; all rancour and bitterness; all hatred and malice; with whatsoever else is contrary to the Doctrine and Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Possess us with the spirit of Truth, and love, and brotherly affection. Make us tender-hearted, and to have compassion one towards another; to study to be peace-makers; to pray for peace; to seek those things which will make for peace; and not only to seek after it, but to pursue it, to the utmost of our power, direct to those expedients which will happily unite, and tie us fast together. Or if these miserable differences continue, and cannot otherwise be composed, go forth, O Lord, with our hosts: give wisdom and valour to our leaders; resolution and undaunted courage to our souldiers, and good success to all those enterprises which are undertaken for the common good and safety of these Kingdoms. O God, let *us fall into*

into thy hands, for thy mercies are great: but not into the hands of men, when they are wrathfully displeased at us. And if thou art pleased to crown us with victory, give us grace to use it with moderation, justice and charity. O that we may overcome likewise all temptations to bold and presumptuous continuance in our sins against thee: and be subdued by thy favour towards us, to a serious study and care, how to *lead a peaceable life in all godliness and honesty*: for the sake of Chrtist Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Whose *grace be with us all. Amen.*

In time of Scarcity.

O God, who *turnest a fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein*; pour down upon the sinful inhabitants of these Islands, a serious sense of their own undeservings, and of thy righteous judgments, which thou hast sent upon them. That they may humble themselves before thee, and repent of their wantonness and riot, of their feasting themselves without fear, and hardening their hearts against the cries of the poor, of their discontent and repining in the midst of plenty, and their loathing the divine food of their souls; which thou hast justly punished with scarcity of bread in all places.

Make us ashamed, O Lord, and heartily sorry for these and all other our offences against thy Divine Majesty. And as an earnest of better obedience for the time to come, dispose the hearts of those who are afflicted, to submit with meekness to thy

thy punishment: and preserve them from all murmuring at thy wise providence. Open the hearts likewise of those who are rich, to shew mercy to them, and comfort them in their miseries. The greater stores of provision any have treasured up against this time of want; incline them so much the more to consider the poor and needy, and fear to oppress them. Enlarge their hearts in more abundant charity, by the advantage they make of this present Scarcity. And when thou shalt have turned it into plenty again, Lord, make us all truly thankful, and soberly to use thy blessings, and to bring forth plentifully the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of thy Name, and the eternal happiness of our souls and bodies, in that world where there is no want, but fulness of joy for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer proper for **Ember-week.**

O God, *the Father of lights, from whom cometh down every good, and every perfect gift*; I am sensible of thy great grace, in ordaining a succession of men to bless in thy Name, and to instruct us in our duty. I am sensible of what moment it is that they should be wise and good themselves, who are to teach wisdom, and recommend goodness and virtue to thy people. And therefore I most humbly beseech thee, to inspire the Bishops and Pastors of thy flock with the spirit of Wisdom and discerning, to make choice of such only to be Stewards of the heavenly Mysteries, as *trust they are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost, to take upon them the Office of Serving in the sacred Ministry of thy Church.*

And

And inſpire likewiſe all thoſe who ſhall be admitted to that ſervice, with a great zeal for thy glory, and for the honour of our Saviour, and for the Salvation of his people. Repleniſh them ſo abundantly with the knowledge of thy will in all wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding; that they may be apt to teach, skilfully divide the word of truth, rightly and duly adminiſter thy holy Sacraments, Catechiſe and inſtruct the Ignorant, exhort and convince gainſayers, ſatisfie thoſe that are in doubt, confirm thoſe that are well reſolved, comfort thoſe that mourn, abſolve the penitent, and convey bleſſings to all thoſe who are committed to their charge.

And hear, I beſeech thee, the prayers of thy whole Church, which are now devoutly offered to thee. And ſtir up all the faithful to ſend up ardent ſupplications; that thoſe whom our ſpiritual Fathers now ſeparate to any holy office, being the children of faſtings and prayers, may be the more laborious and ſucceſsful in the work of our Lord, and prove eminent inſtruments of enlarging his Kingdom here on earth, and thereby of bringing many ſouls to his Kingdom in heaven. For which I moſt humbly beſeech thee to fit and prepare us all by the miniſtry of thy faithful ſervants every where, for the ſake of our great high Prieſt, Chriſt Jeſus. To whom, *&c.* *Amen.*

A Thankſgiving for any publick or private mercies.

O God moſt high, and bleſſed for evermore: who haſt beſtowed upon us the happineſs to know

now and underſtand thee, that thou art the Lord
all, and that thou *exerciſes loving*
indneſs, *judgment and righteouſneſs* Jer. 9. 24.
the earth, and that thou haſt ſaid,
theſe things thou delighteſt Thou art to be
orſhipped and adored with my continual prai-
s and thankſgivings, who am here proſtrated
fore the Throne of thy Grace, oppreſſed with
e great load of thy mercies and benefits, which
ll upon all that is within me to bleſs thy holy
ame. I have often acknowledged that thou art the
uthor of my being; and that it is thy favour which
th made my life not to be a burden to me, as it
ight have been by innumerable miſeries. And now,
heartily renew thoſe acknowledgements; and thank
y great goodneſs for my long continued health, eaſe,
ace and plenty; or that thou haſt mercifully reliev-
and ſupported me in any ſickneſ, pain, trouble or
s of worldly goods that hath befaln me. Particu-
ly I thank thee for thy late bleſſings which thou
ſt conferred upon me, notwithſtanding my unde-
vings, and high provocations, which I have any
y given thy divine Majeſty, to deprive me of all
od things.

*Here mention the particulars in which you are pri-
vately concern'd: and if it be the publick mercy of
ceaſing a great* Contagion, *proceed thus.*]

Bleſſed be thy goodneſ, which hath preſerved ſo
any of us alive in the midſt of a great mortallity;
d hath reſtored health again into the habitations
our Neighbours. Bleſſed be thy ſparing mercy
ich hath *delivered us from the noi-*
peſtilence; *and when a thouſand* Pſal. 91. 2, 7.
at our ſide, and ten thouſand
our right hand, didſt not ſuffer it to come
nigh

nigh our dwelling. Thou hast been our refuge, and our fortress, our God, in whom we ought to trust for ever.

[After a *War* is ended, some such words as these may be added.]

Psal. 124. 1, 2, &c. 65. 7. 29. ult. *If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, may we all well say, if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when men rose up against us: Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us. Blessed be the Lord, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth. Blessed be the Lord, who hath caused wars to cease: and made our enemies to be at peace with us. It is the Lord that stilleth the noise of the Seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people. The Lord giveth strength to his people: The Lord blesseth his people with peace.*

[When *Plenty* is restored, say]

Psal 65. 9. 12. 132. 15. 147. 14. Joel 2. 23. *Thou hast visited the earth and blessed it; thou hast made it very plenteous. Thou hast crowned the year with thy goodness; and thy clouds have dropt fatness. Thou hast blessed our provision abundantly, and satisfied our poor again with bread. Blessed be the Lord, who hath caused the former and latter rain to come down for us in their season; and filled us with the finest of the wheat. We eat in plenty and are satisfied: Praised be the name of the Lord our God, that hath dealt wondrously with us.*

But above all, thy great and glorious name is to be praised, for thine incomprehensible mercy in thy

Son

n Christ, whom thou hast sent unto us with bet-
r blessings; to be the Meditator of our peace with
ee, to heal all the diseases of our sinful natures,
d to deliver us from the power of Satan, and of
ell and Death, and to restore us to an immor-
l life. Thanks be to thine infinite goodness, which
th taught us by him the way of truth and righ-
ousness; and made him an offering for our sins;
d raised him from the dead, to the Throne of
lory in the heavens; and sent from thence the ho-
Spirit, to enlighten our minds with the whole
owledge of thy will, and to shed abroad thy great
ve in our hearts, and to be the earnest of an hea-
nly inheritance, together with our blessed Lord;
ho is Heir of all things, having the Hosts of An-
ls subject unto him, whom he hath appointed
lessed be thy Name) for the guard and defence,
e succour and help of all his faithful servants.

I thank thee, O Lord, that thou hast pardoned
many offences; and so graciously importuned
e to return to my duty; and afforded so long time
d space of repentance; and waited so patiently
r my amendment; and continued to me constant-
, as I must again confess, so many blessings which
have abused, or restored them to me after a short
rrection of my faults. I cannot wish for any other
ppiness, but only for an heart gratefully to resent
y love, and to delight to meditate continually on
y tender mercies; that so I may love thee more,
d thank and serve thee better the rest of my days,
nd live in good hope to pass from all this happi-
ss here, to eternal bliss. And this grace thou hast
kewise promised to bestow upon me, yea, I feel
e motions of thy holy Spirit in my heart, exciting
me a sense of thy goodness, and provoking me to
ve and to good works.

O

O my soul, never forget the loving kindness of the Lord. Let his name be daily blessed and praised with a joyful heart; for *his goodness* Psal. 52. 1. *endureth continually*. To him I ought to live, and not unto my self: for he is my Creator, and Saviour, and Comforter, who daily loadeth me with his benefits. Therefore I ought to glorifie him, both with my body, and with my spirit, which are his. Accept, good Lord, of the unfeigned desires and purposes which thou seest in my heart, in all things to be conformed to thy Will. And accordingly assist me always with the renewed influences of thy heavenly grace, that I may grow in spiritual wisdom and knowledge of my duty; and that I may heartily love it, and faithfully remember it, and give all diligence to perform it, notwithstanding any difficules that I meet with-al to oppose it.

Enable me to maintain a constant sense of thy divine presence, to reverence thy holy Name and Word, and to walk before thee in all humility, thankfulness, patience, heavenly mindedness, and contentedness of spirit. And help me likewise to exercise all Justice, charity, meekness, and forgiveness towards all men: and to live in a sober, chaste and moderate use of all the good things of this world. Let thy fear always curb the disorders of my passions; and thy love be a spur to my endeavours; and the example of the Lord Jesus, and all the Saints provoke me to zeal and fervency of spirit; and the hope of eternal bliss strengthen, encourage and make me constant in all the troubles and hardships of this life: that persevering in well-doing, I may finish my course with joy, and win the Crown of Righteousness, which he hath promised to all the faithful. *Amen, Amen.*

Assist

Assist me mercifully, O Lord, in these my Supplications and Prayers, and dispose the way of thy servant, towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, I may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A short Prayer for a Student.

I Look up unto thee, O Lord, *from whom cometh every good and perfect gift*, beseeching thee to direct, assist and bless all the labours of my mind. Illuminate my understanding, O Father of lights, and lead me unto right apprehensions in all things. Endue me with that humility and soberness of mind, which thou delightest to reward, with more of thy gifts and graces. Bestow upon me a discerning spirit; a sound judgment; and an honest and good heart, sincerely disposed to employ all the Talents which thou hast, or shalt intrust me withal, to thy honour and glory, and to the good of mankind.

For which end, I beseech thee to excite my thirst after useful, rather than much knowledge. And especially enrich me with the treasures of that inspired wisdom, contained in thy holy Scriptures; which are able to *make me wise unto salvation.* That growing in understanding and goodness; as I grow in years; my profiting may be apparent unto all men: and I may give a comfortable account of my time to thee, my God, at the day of the Lord Jesus. *Amen.*

A Prayer that may be uſed, any time of the day, when a perſon hath leiſure to retire.

O Lord, the great Creator and Governour of all things; I proſtrate my ſelf before thee, in the humble adoration of thy incomprehenſible Majeſty: acknowledging that I depend entirely upon thee; praiſing and magnifying thy moſt glorious Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs, which are conſpicuous every where; and rendering unto thee my moſt hearty thanks for all the benefits which thou haſt ſo freely and undeſervedly conferred on me. Thou art bountiful to the whole world: All thy Works praiſe thee; and we the children of men ought more particularly to bleſs thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name, who have received ſingular marks and tokens of thy favour and grace, above all the reſt of our fellow creatures. Thou haſt made us after thine own Image, and endued us with reaſonable and immortal ſpirits; and given us a capacity to reflect on thee, the Author of our being, and to be like unto thee in wiſdom, holineſs, goodneſs and truth. But above all I ought to remember continually that great demonſtration of thy love, in ſending thy dear Son to live among us, to dye for us, and to give us an aſſured hope of immortal life.

I love thee, O Lord, I renew the oblation, which I have often made of my ſoul and body to thee, I wait upon thee ſtill, for what thou ſeeſt good for both. I hope in thy everlaſting mercies, that thou wilt pardon all my forgetfulneſs of thee, and ingratitude unto thee. And I moſt earneſtly implore the

the grace of thy holy Spirit, to preſerve in my mind a powerful ſenſe of thee; an ardent love to thee; and an holy care to pleaſe and obey thee in all things. That the very ſame mind and ſpirit may be in me, which was in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord: the Spirit of wiſdom and underſtanding, and the fear of thee; the ſpirit of meekneſs, humility, purity and charity: and that I may do thy will with ſuch chearfulneſs, zeal, conſtancy, patience and perſeverance, as he did.

I thank thee, O Lord, for all helps and aſſiſtances of that good Spirit, which thou haſt already favoured me withal. That thou haſt ſo frequently made good motions to my ſoul; inſpired me with holy thoughts, and devout affections; and inclined and diſpoſed my will, many ways, to the choice of that which is good. I thank thee for the many ſeaſonable admonitions which thou haſt given me, for the happy opportunities which have been afforded me, for wiſdom and virtue; for a good education, pious examples, faithful friends, and all other furtherances in the way of ſalvation.

I remember likewiſe, with my moſt grateful acknowledgments, what abundance of good things thou haſt beſtowed on me, from time to time, for my better accommodation in this preſent life. Bleſſed be thy name for my continued health, and food, and raiment. Bleſſed be thy name that my bones are not broken; that I am not groaning under the ſoreſt pains; that I dwell in ſafety night and day; and that I ſtill ſee my friends and acquaintance, and many other comforts round about me.

I thank thee, O Lord, for theſe; and all bleſſings whatſoever, that thou haſt conveyed to me by the Miniſtry of thy holy Angels; unto whom thou haſt given the charge of me. O *bleſs the Lord*, together with me, *ye his Angels which excel in ſtrength, that*

do his commandments, hearkening to the voice of his word. And enable me every day, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, O Father of mercies, to bleſs thee better; with a purer heart, and a more lively ſenſe of all thy love, and a greater delight in thy Divine Service, and a forwardneſs to every good work.

And as thou haſt preſerved me hitherto this day: ſo bleſs me the remaining part of it. That endeavouring ſincerely in all my deſigns, words, deſires and actions to approve my ſelf to thee, as thy good and faithful ſervant, I may a with good conſcience preſent my ſelf before thee in the concluſion of it: and with the greater confidence of thy gracious acceptance renew my praiſes and acknowledgments, and commend my ſelf to thy bleſſing, and hope for the continued protection of thy holy Angels; through Chriſt Jeſus. To whom be glory for ever. *Amen.*

A ſhorter to the ſame purpoſe.

I Proſtrate my ſelf before thee, O Lord of heaven and earth, in all humility of ſoul and body. I acknowledge my dependence upon thee; and thy conſtant care and providence over me ever ſince I was born: particularly this day; in keeping me hitherto from many dangers, and providing for me many good things; as well for the comfort and pleaſure, as for the neceſſary ſupport of this preſent life. Eſpecially I thank thee for thy exceeding great love in the Lord Jeſus; through whom thou haſt given me good hope of better enjoyments in the life to come, by following that bleſſed example which he hath ſet us, of all well-doing, and contented ſuffering.

It is all reaſon, O Lord, that I ſhould love thee, and tirely truſt in thee, and moſt willingly ſerve and obey ee. Accordingly I here again dedicate my ſelf both ul and body to thee. I vow my ſelf ever to thy ſervice. hope ſtill in thy great mercies, which have been ſo nder and ſo abundant towards me. I depend up- thee, for what thou ſeeſt to be profitable for me. refer my ſelf abſolutely to thy wiſe Will; reſolving reſt contented and ſatisfied in that condition where- thou placeſt me. I believe thou ordereſt all things heaven and in earth; and takeſt the greateſt care thoſe that wait upon thee, and commit themſelves nto thee, as I now do, in confidence of thy good- ſs, and ſubmiſſion to thy pleaſure. Eſpecially I ly upon thee, for thy holy Spirit, to preſerve in me heſe holy purpoſes, and inſpire me continually with ood thoughts, and ſtir up in me heavenly affections, nd increaſe and ſtrengthen my faith and hope in thee, nd aſſiſt my endeavours to do according to my pious eſolutions.

Bleſſed be thy great goodneſs for what I have felt lready: I thank thee for thy many illuminations rom above; for thy grace ſo early preventing me; or the aſſiſtance and furtherance thou haſt given me; nd the happy opportunities I have met withal of im- roving my ſelf in true wiſdom and goodneſs. It is he earneſt deſire of my ſoul to grow more in both, nd to be made perfectly like to my bleſſed Lord and Saviour. By whom all honour and glorly be given to hee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

A Grace before Meat.

WE acknowledge thy goodneſs, O Lord, in making this [plentiful] *proviſion for us. Pardon our ingratitude for thy former mercies. And bleſs us with ſuch a diſcreet and thankful uſe of theſe thy good creatures, that they may not hinder us in our duty, but better diſpoſe us to do thee all faithful ſervice in our ſeveral places; through our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Amen.

Or this.

WE look up unto thee, O Lord, who giveſt us life and breath, and all things; beſeeching thee to forgive us all our ſins, and to make us ſuch thankful partakers of theſe thy good creatures, that by a moderate uſe of them our bodies may be refreſhed, and made more fit to accompany our ſouls in hearty endeavours to do thee faithful ſervice, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Or this.

WE renew our thankful acknowledgments unto thee, O Lord, for making again this merciful proviſion for us, who are unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. Add thy gracious pardon likewiſe; and bleſs the ſober uſe of theſe thy creatures, to the ſtrengthening of our frail bodies. And endue our ſouls with the grace of thy holy Spirit, that we may return back unto thee the ſtrength we receive from them in well-doing, and it may be as delightful as our meat and drink, to do the will of thee our heavenly Father, through Jeſus Chriſt, &c. Amen.

After

After Meat.

WE return unto thee, O Lord, our hearty thanks for these and all other the like mercies bestowed upon us, ever since we had a being; especially for the promises thou hast given us of eternal life, by thy Son Christ. Enable us, we beseech thee, to continue so patiently in all good works, that at last we may attain it. And bless thine Universal Church, these Realms, the King, the Queen, and all the Royal Family; and grant us thy grace, mercy and peace, *through Christ Jesus.* Amen.

Or this.

BLessed be thy name, O Lord, for our continued health, and food, and raiment, and friends, and all other good things, whereby thou maintainest the comfort of this present life. Above all we thank thee, for thy love in Christ Jesus, and the hope thou hast given us by him, of better things in another world: unto which we beseech thee to bring us by hearty obedience to thee all our days. Save thine Universal Church, &c.

Or this.

WE thank thee, O Lord, that we are alive, and that we live in health, and peace, and the enjoyment of all good things that are needful for the support of this present life, and for the attainment of a better. Continue them, we pray thee, unto us: and continue us in such a thankful sense of thy love, that we may live unto thee, by whom we live. Save thy Universal Church, &c.

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